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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2009

'Flying Vet' in court

VALE 'Flying Vet', Maurice Kirk, who has been remanded in custody since June 25, awaiting trial on antique firearm charges, is due to make his next appearance at Cardiff Crown Court on December 17.

During his initial remand period in Cardiff Prison during the summer, Mr Kirk went on hunger strike. He was protesting at being refused permission to appear personally in court to ask a judge to grant him bail, so that he could prepare his own defence.

Mr Kirk also underwent almost 12 weeks of assessments at a Bridgend psychiatric unit, before being returned to Cardiff Prison.

He is charged with unlawfully possessing a World War 1 firearm (a 1916 Lewis machine gun) and attempting to sell it without authority.

Mr Kirk appeared in court on December 2, and was again remanded in prison until a plea, case-management hearing on December 17.

'Whole of Vale will suffer from the aircraft job losses'

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE trade union representative at the aircraft maintenance unit in St Athan, where 339 jobs will go by 2013, has spoken of how many workers in towns across the Vale such as Cowbridge and Llantwit Major fear a "bleak" future.

The Unite works convener at the Defence Support Group's large aircraft business unit, Mr Gavin Toker, told The GEM: "The feeling of people in the past few days has been one of disappointment.

"We knew current work was coming to an end, but the Ministry of Defence was reluctant to put work our way."

Mr Toker said the Vale would be particularly hard hit by the redundancies.

"The catchment area for people working here is from Newport down to Swansea, but 50 per cent or more would come from the Vale – Barry, St Athan, Llantwit and Cowbridge."

Mr Toker said people would be faced with the difficult decision of whether to move away from the area to stay in the aviation industry or not.

"There's a difference in how people view it depending on their generation.

"Younger people might be prepared to move abroad to Spain or France to stay in aviation.

"Older people tend to have roots in the area with their families, and might have to change careers to get a job.

"There is a lot of fear because people are asking themselves 'will the jobs market have improved by the time I've lost my job?'

"At the moment it is looking pretty bleak."

Last week, a Ministry of Defence announcement in the House of Commons confirmed that 200 people would go by December, 2010, and a further 139 would go by June, 2013 as VC10 maintenance work came to an end.

Mr Toker said the employees were also concerned at how much redundancy pay they would get.

If people want to remain in the aviation industry in Wales, they will hope that British Airways Maintenance Cardiff or Airbus UK, based at Broughton in north Wales, may recruit in the future.

Conservative parliamentary candidate, Alun Cairns AM, said: "This is yet more bad news for the community and we need to remember the personal effect of each job – the family, the mortgage, particularly at this most sensitive time of year.

"What angers me most is that different to most other redundancies, the government chose to lay people off. It is not because of market forces or the recession. People in the Vale have been let down."

Kevin Mahoney, UKIP's parliamentary candidate for the Vale, said: "This is another example of the Vale's highly skilled work base being cut to pieces by a government and MoD determined to undermine both our military and civilian capabilities during times of foreign conflict, and recession on the home front."

An MoD spokesman said: "The MOD is now formally consulting with the trades unions over the proposal to reduce DSG St Athan capacity and capability in a phased manner. An outcome of the consultation period will be announced in the new year.

"The MoD is working closely with DSG to explore future job opportunities for those employees directly affected by the proposal."

Cowbridge calendar proves a Christmas No. 1 best seller!

THE calendar featuring Cowbridge businessmen in risque poses – but all in the best possible taste because it was for Children in Need – has hit the 350 mark!

One of the organisers, Simon Parton, of Coyote Ski and Snowboard, said: "We're down to the last 50 calendars. People can still pick them up at Coyote Ski and Snowboard, Arthur John & Co, and at local newsagents."

The pictures were taken by GEM photographer GLYN EVANS, and organisers managed to get the calendar printed and delivered to Cowbridge within a week.

If all the calendars are sold, local businessmen will have raised around £2,800 for Children in Need.

Cowbridge history DVD is back – (BY POPULAR DEMAND!)

A locally-produced DVD featuring fascinating details of Cowbridge's recent history has been re-released – after selling out when it was launched two years ago.

The DVD, entitled *Cowbridge on Film*, was made by the late Jeff Alden, with contributions from a great many local residents.

The technical side of the production was handled by Rich Owen of Clear as Mud Productions, and by Mike Wilcock, and the project was completed under the auspices of the Cowbridge and District Local History Society.

A society spokesman said: "At £5, it makes an ideal Christmas present for anyone connected with the town."

Copies can be obtained from Dick Buswell (telephone 01446 771929) or from 9, The Limes, Cowbridge. All proceeds go to the Cowbridge and District Local History.

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'HELP SAVE THE VULCAN'

MANY local people will remember with a degree of nostalgia, Vulcan bombers flying into RAF St Athan for major servicing, and XH558 displaying at the annual Battle of Britain air show.

This last flying Vulcan is now in desperate need of funds to enable it to continue thrilling crowds at air shows around the country.

Parts of the airframe have reached the end of their flying hours and need to be replaced or modified to satisfy strict safety regulations.

The charitable trust responsible for getting the Vulcan back in the air and keeping her there, must have £200,000 by January and a further £400,000 by March in order to carry out this essential engineering work.

The alternative would be the grounding of the aircraft for ever. To anyone who has seen this most beautiful of aircraft in its natural environment, this is a situation that does not bear contemplating.

Please help NOW by going to www.vulcantothesky.org for information about the appeal. To make a simple donation of £3, just text vulcan to 82055. Every little will help to keep this grand old lady, who will be 50 in 2010, in the sky – where she belongs.

Peter Wilson,
Barry

Transport plans are not so NEET

AT a time when the NEET generation 'young people not in employment, education or training' is increasing, to general concern, I was disturbed to see the Vale Council is getting ready to end free transport to school or college for post-16 teenagers.

This would affect all our Vale sixth-formers and college students from September 2010.

What is even more incredible is that none of the parents I've asked about this, those who would pay for the change, seem to be aware of it.

The council website shows the cabinet agreed to consult on the proposals at a meeting on November 4 and asked for a report on the outcome for the meeting in January 2010. A brief period that includes the Christmas break.

The website says the council currently provides free transport for 1,310 post-16 students.

Options in the new proposals include replacing free transport for students over compulsory school age with either a travel grant system (suggested at £150 a year) or the introduction of a charging policy (suggested at £180 a year).

At a time when great efforts are being made to help the 16-19 age band to stay in education or training, this step seems highly counter productive.

Although many people would see this as a matter that won't affect me personally, I think it does.

It affects me as a member of a society when even more of our young people could go the NEET way to the concern of the rest of us.

Jean Silvan Evans,
Peterston-super-Ely

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'CEMETERY ROAD: HOW COUNCIL VOTING WENT'

COUN Alexander's letter in The GEM last week regarding coalitions makes interesting reading, but she seems to be confused as to what happened during her coalition administration.

It was in 2007, during that coalition administration, that contracts to sell the land at Cemetery Road were exchanged with Newydd Housing Association, thereby committing the council to sell, subject to planning permission being obtained.

That consent was eventually refused, but it pays to examine closely the voting on the two occasions that the matter was considered by the planning committee.

On December 13, 2007, 10 members voted, five voted to refuse consent – two Conservative, two Labour and one Plaid Cymru, five voted to approve, four Labour and one Llantwit First. The Labour chairman used his casting vote to approve the application.

The matter had to be considered again on March 13 and on this occasion, the presence of an additional Labour member (who had not attended the December meeting as a consequence of being on holiday), resulted in the application being refused.

There was a coalition against the application, but not the one that Coun Alexander imagines.

It is, of course, impossible to know what would have happened as far as Bryneithin is concerned if the coalition had remained in power.

It is easy to make promises when you don't have to make decisions. It has, however, been possible to look back to the time when the coalition was in power and its consideration of Bryneithin on July 18, 2007.

The coalition members did not make any decision save to ask that arrangements be put in place to manage the 'rationalisation' of social services' properties and to develop a strategy for EMI and Extra Care.

By the time the coalition lost office, nothing appears to have been done.

Coun Gordon Kemp, Llancarfan
(Leader, Vale Council)

MOYA SAYS: 'THANK YOU'

MAY I, through your letters page, say thank you, to all the pupils and parents of the Moya Vahey school of Russian Classical Ballet, who gave so generously at my 40th anniversary concert on November 22.

Also many thanks to all who helped and to Jensons Sport shop, Cowbridge, A&A Dancewear, Barry, and Nickleby's Bookstore, Llantwit Major.

We raised £1,200 for Cancer Research Wales.

Moya Vahey Beynon, Cowbridge

'Well done to Pride in Barry!'

AS someone from the town, I would like to congratulate Pride in Barry for doing an excellent job in organising the Blue Plaque Scheme that will raise awareness of the Welsh (and international) quality of many people from Barry.

Many people are only too keen to knock the town, but the 10 'winners' of the scheme, and the 50 or so people nominated show the impact that Barry has had upon Wales and the wider world, including being the hometown of former Plaid Cymru leader Gwynfor Evans and internationally important journalist Gareth Jones.

I was glad to hear that Pride in Barry plan to repeat the scheme next year, and look forward to more of Barry's most influential and important people being remembered in this way.

Dr Ian Johnson, Barry
(Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan)

What is next – Euroxenocrime?

SO now we have a Dutch president, a Frenchman overseeing our financial services (much to the delight of Mr Sarkozy) and a Romanian, heaven help us, overseeing our agriculture.

What does the EU know about finance anyway? Its own accounts have not been approved for 16 years. What was that again that Edward Heath said about not losing sovereignty?

It cannot be long before even mentioning these facts becomes a Euroxenocrime, punishable by strangulation of the grants to us of (some of) our own money.

RH Bradshaw, Cowbridge

Lovely surprise from The GEM!

WHAT a lovely surprise on opening The GEM, to see that I had won the £20 prize in the Searchword competition, to be spent at the Pet Shop, Regent Street, Barry.

My pets had some real treats, and I would like to add my thanks for the kind and courteous manner of the staff. I shall certainly be going back to shop again.

Thank you, GEM!

Theresa Colins,
Barry

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL DECEMBER 17)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
10 Thur	00.39	12.9	13.09	13.1
11 Fri	01.41	12.8	14.14	12.9
12 Sat	02.47	12.9	15.21	13.0
13 Sun	03.57	13.1	16.16	13.2
14 Mon	04.51	13.3	17.16	13.4
15 Tues	05.42	13.6	18.04	13.7
16 Wed	06.26	13.8	18.52	13.9
17 Thur	07.07	14.0	19.33	13.9

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HELPLINES
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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
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Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 11.30am (Wed 4-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999. **Gas** - Gas emergency number 0800 111999. Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130. Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

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Home's fab four are VIP guests at a celebration tea

RIGHT: Pictured are Olive Rawson, Val Stadden, Anne Wilce and Beryl Vaughan.

THE Cowbridge residential home for the elderly, Southway, held a celebration tea to thank the group of volunteer ladies who provide hairdressing services to the residents.

The original group was established via the Red Cross and Norma Anderson and training was given by Enid Archard.

They have been visiting Southway for more than 25 years and have given numerous donations to the League of Friends fund, which is used to benefit the residents.

This year's fund will be put towards the purchase of new TVs ready for the switch-over.

FESTIVE FUN AT PETERSTON SUPER ELY...

THE Village Market will be holding its Christmas market and craft fair on Saturday (December 12) from 10am-2pm in Peterston-Super-Ely church and community hall.

There will be a wide range of craft stalls booked, together with homemade cakes and produce, expanded range of jams, chutneys and pickles, Christmas plants and fresh Christmas decorations.

Young dancers and carol singers will entertain and there are mince pies, mulled wine, home made soup and hot turkey rolls.

Bran tub, face painting and games for children, will add to the festive atmosphere. Entry is free and all profits go towards the upkeep and improvement of the Hall facilities.

For any further information, contact Pat Cadwalladr on 01446 760267.

Llancarfan pupils' children's charity

THERE were lots of dots and colour in Llancarfan School on Children in Need Day!

The pupils dressed up in colourful spots and bright colours. They raised £40 by selling cakes for 10p and 20p, and £117.85 altogether. The pupils also organised a 'guess how many Smarties in the jar'.

Thank you to everyone who donated money and cakes to this worthwhile cause.

Report by Mali Ford and Sam Gammon

Molly and Thomas are picture perfect

Coun Geoff Cox with Molly and Thomas.

THE winners of the Summer Reading Challenge photo competition at Cowbridge library were: first, Molly Gambling and second, Thomas Bainbridge. The children showed real invention and GEM photographer GLYN EVANS judged the entries. The prizes were presented by Coun Geoff Cox.

Tabernacle brings carols to Cowbridge

DURING the summer, Brackla Tabernacle, a Bridgend-based church, began the first stage of its new church in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The 'Re:Fresh' events held in Cowbridge Comprehensive School were hugely successful, attracting an average of 190 people at each.

Although weekly services are not planned to begin until spring 2010, at 7.30pm on Friday, December 18, in Cowbridge Town Hall, Brackla Tabernacle will be hosting 'Carols at Cowbridge.'

The event will include classic Christmas carols and will feature the musicians and singers of Brackla Tabernacle performing some contemporary Christian Christmas music. Admission to 'Carols at Cowbridge' is free, refreshments will be provided and a very warm welcome is given to anyone who would like to attend.

For more information regarding 'Carols at Cowbridge' or about Brackla Tabernacle please contact Brackla Tabernacle's office on 01656 650500 or visit www.bracklatabernacle.org. **CH**

SCHOOL PTA RACE NIGHT HAS TO OVERCOME ROUGH GOING!

MEMBERS of Cowbridge Comprehensive School PTA have thanked everyone who braved the atrocious weather last Friday to attend the PTA Race Night.

A spokeswoman reports: "It was a very successful evening. The food went down well and the drink flowed.

"This in turn fuelled the betting, which was fast and furious.

"By the time it got to the auctioning of the horses for the final race, the excitement level had really notched up and the bidding became very competitive. In all, £600 was raised towards the additional equipment needed to make the new Cowbridge school a truly outstanding facility.

"We would especially like to thank those companies and individuals who sponsored the event.

"These were: Curves Gym of Cowbridge; Morgan's Hairdressers; Internet Parental Training Ltd; Mandy, Emily and Ben Terry; Helen, Alan and Sean Davies; and Paul Fisher, whose generosity helped us to raise such a fantastic amount."

She added that Christmas raffle tickets are now available.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

CHILDREN from Llangan Primary School are enjoying a really festive time.

The celebrations began when pupils took part in a concert held in the Ewenny Priory, which proved to be an extremely successful event.

On December 4, the school enjoyed a very successful Christmas fair; on December 8, pupils took part in a concert in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge.

All the school activities are made possible by the dedicated staff who give so much of their free time for the children. Also the PTA who work throughout the year to raise funds for the school.

CHRISTMAS services: Sunday, December 13, at St Canna's, Llangan – Christmas carol service at 4.30pm, led by Canon Peter Raikes.

Following the service, there will be sherry and mince pies and the last draw of the 100 Club will take place.

December 20, carol service at 11.15am, St Mary Hill Church; December 24, tea towels and tinsel nativity service for all the family at 4.30pm at St Crallo's, Coychurch.

Christmas Day – 9am Informal Eucharist at St Crallo's, Coychurch; 10am Holy Eucharist at St Canna's, Llangan; 11am Holy Eucharist at St Mary Hill Church, St Mary Hill.

Sunday, January 3, 2010, Christingle for Epiphany, 4.30pm at St Crallo's, Coychurch. Candlelight service for all the family – take gifts for Wel-care.

St Crallo's Church invite all to join carol singing around Coychurch this evening (December 10) and December 17. Meet at St Crallo's at 6.30pm.

REMINDER: Carol service at Saron Chapel, Treoes, at 2pm on December 13.

DIARY dates at St Canna's, Llangan: Second Sundays of the month, 11.15am Holy Eucharist; Fourth Sunday of the month, 11am Informal family service.

St Mary Hill Church, St Mary Hill; First and Third Sundays of the month, 11.15am Holy Eucharist.

LLANGAN and St Mary Hill community hall – a live country band 'Rooster Booster' will entertain at the hall on Saturday, December 12, at 7.30pm (£3, meal extra).

ANNUAL general meeting: Due to the resignation of the present hall committee of the Llangan and St Mary Hill community hall, a meeting will be held on January 15 at 7.30pm with the hope of forming a new committee.

WHO'S WHO IN THIS PHOTO?

A GEM reader recently sent this photograph to me, in response to my request for material for the book I am currently writing on Barry and the Second World War.

Unfortunately, there was no accompanying name or address. I would therefore be grateful if the person concerned could contact me.

Incidentally, if any other GEM readers have any photographs or stories about their relatives' roles in WW2 I would be delighted to hear from them.

Dr Jonathan Hicks, Barry (Telephone 07708 255295)

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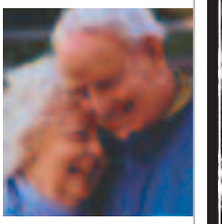

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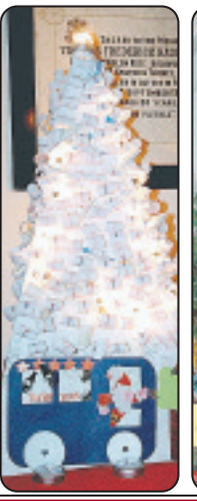
HOLY CROSS CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL BENEFITS CHURCH FUND AND VELINDRE

THE fifth Christmas Tree Festival took place at Holy Cross Church in Cowbridge over the weekend November 27 - 29, and photographer Mike Wilcock was on hand to capture the event.

This year, proceeds were shared between the church restoration fund and Velindre Hospital in Cardiff.

As you can see from the images, among the visitors were the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Jon Harris and his wife Vi.

The pictures on this page were taken by MIKE WILCOCK.
They are available to order from wilcock60@aol.com or telephone 01446 774502.



ABOVE:
Dozens of organisations 'donated' Christmas trees, and this one, with all the smiling faces came from St David's School, Colwinston.

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THOUSANDS BRAVE RAIN AND GET THEIR REWARD – SANTA'S REINDEER PARADE

AS The GEM reported last week, the people who visited Cowbridge for the annual Reindeer Parade were undaunted by the miserable weather.

There were even visitors from as far away as Australia!

As photographer Glyn Evans' pictures show, people crowded the pavements, and the children were excited to see Santa, his reindeer, the elves – and Mary, Joseph and shepherds from the Christmas story.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail glynevans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.
Now open in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

'The Great War' book's record of sacrifice

MR RB DONOVAN of Bridgend, whose article on Sidney Hayward was featured in The GEM on November 26, could find more accurate information on the Hayward family in *The Great War: memorials in Cowbridge and Llanblethian*.

Published in November 2008 by Cowbridge Record Society, this book is on sale at The Cowbridge Bookshop and at Davies newsagents.

It was researched and written as a tribute to 44 young men who gave their lives for King and Country, and who are commemorated on local memorials.

When the memorial in Cowbridge was commissioned in 1920 the Hayward family no longer lived in the town and the names of Benjamin and Sidney were omitted.

The war records of the brothers were researched by their nephew, Stanley Hayward and as a result of his efforts and, with the support of the Cowbridge branch of the Royal British Legion Lance-Corporal Sidney Hayward was added to the memorial in 2001 to be followed by his brother, Stoker Benjamin Hayward in 2008.

Sidney was not the only Cowbridge man killed in action serving with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Pte Wiilliam Archer, 2nd RWF, died in the Second battle of the Somme in August 1918, and Sgt Arthur M Jones, 25th RWF, died in the attack on the Hindenburg Line in September 1918.

There are more details about these and the other men on the memorials in *The Great War.*

José Rawlins, Cowbridge Record Society

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 594.

● **£2000:** 344340. ● **£10:** 495795, 430143, 726543, 314262, 423719, 756382, 133171, 355618, 747216, 409310, 338615, 696014, 695959, 507516, 839645, 340614, 547497, 818393, 470481, 184324. ● **£5:** 678241, 197978, 826481, 843006, 680889, 463813, 899398, 261190, 898301, 221755, 204656, 579083, 559125, 591297, 553333, 118010, 153562, 384773, 157000, 246567, 631192, 259346, 783420, 502853, 626026, 572049, 163097, 161361, 419753, 145853, 878326, 494231, 505735, 507916, 752224, 295979, 767771, 430819, 376343, 104074, 789496, 564225, 631291, 325338, 132679, 420497, 152106, 632367, 359436, 725840, 143226, 227339, 386175, 352685, 699836, 840155, 842905, 217779, 245901, 564269.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

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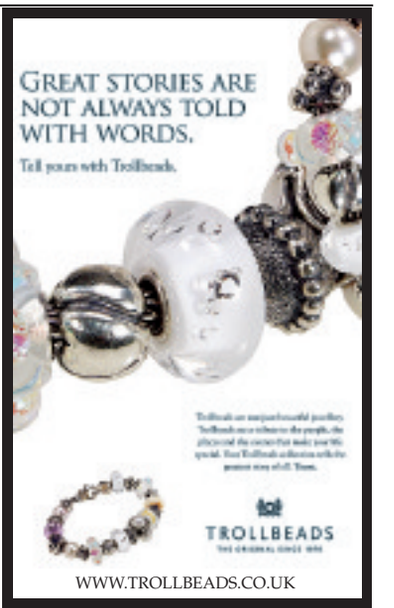

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'I'M FULLY BEHIND THE ST ATHAN SCHEME'

MY Labour opponent issued a challenge in last week's GEM calling on the Conservative Party to get behind the Defence Technical College in St Athan.

I don't know where she has been, but I have been supporting the plan, long before it was announced as the preferred option by the MoD and, might I suggest, before Ms Davies ever showed an interest in our community.

My colleagues in Westminster and I have been and are in constant communication with Metrix and have stated our support in principle and practice on the record.

I am ready to admit that I have challenged Metrix on a number of issues relating to the planning application that would adversely affect local communities, and am pleased to report that they have responded positively.

No matter how much we support the project, it should never be to the cost of local villages or people. Among the champagne corks shown by many, this is what I stated in the Assembly on the day the MoD announced St Athan as their preferred option.

This is an excellent project and I am confident that we can make it the same for local communities and employees.

Alun Cairns AM, (Conservative parliamentary candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan)

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'Conservatives support the Defence Technical College'

I FELT that I should write to reassure Labour's parliamentary candidate for the Vale, Alana Davies, and perhaps more importantly your readers, that I, my colleagues and indeed all Conservatives within the "Conservative-run" Vale of Glamorgan Council unequivocally support the establishment of the Defence Technical College (DTC) at St Athan.

I would add that I view the DTC and the associated Aerospace Business Park (ABP) as absolutely essential to the regeneration of Barry and Llantwit Major.

Indeed, the projects are, in my view, critical to the future prosperity and well being of the economy of the Vale of Glamorgan and the south east region.

It is a fact that I consider the DTC and ABP to be amongst the most important regeneration and economic development schemes in the Vale, and I continue with my colleagues and the officers of the council to give all matters pertaining to these projects the very highest priority.

In summary, the establishment of the DTC and ABP are at the very heart of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's regeneration and economic development strategy.

As such, I very much hope that there is absolutely no doubt in anyone's mind that we are actively working in every way possible to ensure that the DTC and the ABP are constructed and made operational as soon as possible.

Coun Rhodri Traherne
(cabinet member, for Leader Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Keep buying the calendar!

MAY I take this opportunity to thank everyone for supporting our Children In Need calendar, either by selling them or buying one.

To date, we have sold in excess of 320 so we are well on the way to selling our 400 target. If anyone has not yet bought then time is running out.

They can still be bought from: Arthur John & Co; WG Davies Newsagents; The Beehive; Il Portico Restaurant; The Bare Foot Studios; PH 71 Hair Saloon; Coyoti Ski and Snowboard; The Little Shop of Calm (Halcyon Daze); Adam or Simon 'The Old Wool Barn'.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your support.

Simon Parton, Cowbridge

'Marie Curie thanks you'

I WOULD like to thank all the ladies who kindly came to the 'Joanne Christmas coffee morning' last Friday in aid of the Marie Curie charity.

Also I would like to sincerely thank George and his staff at Illtyds 216 for helping to make it a very happy and successful morning.

Roz Couzens,
Llantwit Major

'Council's mean scheme to make money'

I WAS puzzled at first when I heard about the Vale Council's decision to charge 16-year-olds and above for their bus service to school. Why do that when the bus is going anyway?

My daughter will be 16 next school year and catches the bus from Peterston super Ely to Cowbridge school every day. The bus will still be travelling that route, so why pick on her and her age group to pay for it?

I realise the answer is that it is the meanest of schemes to make a little income for the council. The councillors who made this decision are a disgrace to discriminate against a particular section of schoolchildren and extract money from them.

We need to encourage our children (and parents) in every way possible to continue into education not put barriers in their way.

Shame on them; they should reverse this tawdry decision immediately.

John Drysdale,
Peterston super Ely

'Please keep your dogs on a lead'

I AM grateful to recent letter writers for reminding dog owners that pets must be kept on a lead in certain designated areas of Cosmeston Lakes Country Park.

It is a criminal offence to allow dogs to wander freely in these areas, and we would request the public to take notice of the signs and observe the bye-laws.

There is clear signage in the areas where the bye-laws exist and, individuals ignoring this bye-law, could face a fine of up to £500 if the case is taken to court.

It is always a shame that a few irresponsible dog walkers can cause a problem and, in response, I will be asking council enforcement officers and the dog wardens to give the areas in the park some extra attention.

I would encourage people using this popular park to keep their dogs on a lead where they should by law, and to be considerate of other park users and wildlife in the area.

Coun Anthony Ernest
(Cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Who remembers Roger Livesey?

ON Thursday (November 26) I read in The GEM your story of the heroes and heroines to be honoured in Barry – but did you know that a film star was born in the town?

His name is Roger Livesey, born June 25, 1906.

The older generation may remember him in *The Drum*, with Sabu, also *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp – a matter of life and death*, but there were many more.

I believe he was born in Romilly Road.

J James, Barry

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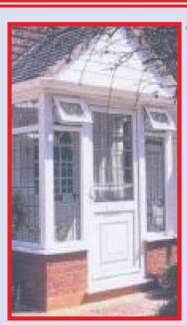

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Originally based in Llandaff, Cardiff, we relocated to Barry in 1991 after the directors decided to be closer to home.

Co-founders, directors and brothers Nick and John Madge, together with their friendly staff, work hard to provide their valued customers with the products and service they require.

Windows, doors and conservatories are all manufactured on site at our specialist facilities on the Ty Verlon Industrial Estate, off Cardiff Road, Barry.

With over 20,000 installations in the area, we strive to look after customers past and present, throughout purchase, installation and after care.

Director John Madge said: "We endeavour to stay competitive by doing our best to consistently offer a high level of service. We have been established over 21 years, the same company with the same name."

Fellow director Nick Madge added: "The majority of our work comes from recommendations, and we would therefore like to thank all our customers past and present for supporting Dinas Windows and hope they will continue to do so in the future.

New leader takes on Rhodri's mantle at the Assembly as Wales looks forward...

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills)

FOR the past 10 years, I have been writing a fortnightly column in The GEM and if I look back over this time, there have been many 'events' as Harold Macmillan described them, which are worthy of note and recall.

Some of these link to key political 'events'— such as the outcome of elections and the impact the results have had on government at all levels.

I have been your Assembly Member since May 1999, and I have reported on developments and changes, many of which I have been directly involved in, as a Minister and politician, such as the formation of partnerships and coalitions with other political parties – between Labour and the Liberal Democrats in 2000 and Labour and Plaid Cymru in 2007.

In May 2007, I was proud to be the Minister who successfully nominated Rhodri to be First Minister at a 'cliffhanger' point in the negotiations for a new government after six weeks of political uncertainty as to who was going to govern Wales.

Some of these 'events' may have been of little interest to my constituents, who just want to see a government in place, taking decisions and being held to account for policies and budgets and delivering good public services.

But this week, we are in the midst of change which will be notable in the history of Wales. There has been widespread interest in the changes that are taking place, with the First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, Leader of the Labour Party, standing down from this position (*remaining an Assembly Member until 2011*) and we are welcoming a new First Minister and Leader, Carwyn Jones, to take this top position in Wales.

For nearly 10 years, Rhodri Morgan has led Wales in the most extraordinary way, marking him out as one of the most popular and respected leaders of our time.

This week, he has undertaken his last First Minister's questions to a packed public gallery for this significant occasion.

As usual, his formidable knowledge, intellect and wit will have drawn the admiration of all those who have enjoyed and benefited from these weekly events, alongside the many other roles he has played in Wales and the world.

Last Thursday, I attended the ninth economic summit he has chaired since last autumn 2008, when the recession began to bite in Wales.

Supported by key figures in business, trade unions, as well as the banks and universities, there was strong support for the way the First Minister has developed and led this social and economic partnership, which has been all about 'government engaging' with those whose interests we are here to serve.

This partnership has helped the Welsh Assembly Government deliver such programmes as Proact, which has benefited 7,627 individuals, 156 companies (two thirds SMEs) including companies in the Vale such as Dow Corning, Symons Madge and Corinthian.

The skills update last Thursday was positive in terms of the investment we are making in skills for 1,800 young people undertaking the 'Pathways to Apprenticeships' scheme, and 1,089 businesses supported by the leadership and management workshops. This all provides a healthy partnership base of support for our new First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM, my cabinet colleague and fellow AM from Bridgend, who takes the reins this week to continue the drive to lead Wales out of the recession in 2010 towards new opportunities which will benefit our communities and economy.

There has been a widespread and warm welcome for Carwyn as he takes on the mantle of leadership. He has acknowledged the great man he has to follow, but that will strengthen him in every way as he moves into this role in a more confident Wales, which has found inspiration from Rhodri Morgan.

This is a Wales which is ready to welcome and support a bright new leader, with 10 years' ministerial experience himself, taking on the role of First Minister for Wales.

Thank you for everything, Rhodri Morgan, and congratulations and good luck to Carwyn Jones!

Where is the festive spirit?

SO, for yet another year Tesco hasn't (so far!) participated in the Christmas decorations in Cowbridge High Street.

For a group with such aggressive sitings of its stores, taking business from many local High Street shops, why can't they do what most of the local shops have done and get some Christmas lights?

Cowbridge Tesco – you still have time to enter into the festive spirit, get some decent decorations and not let the town down. Try giving instead of just taking!

J Williams,
Cowbridge

Cowbridge post office gets pat on back from AM

AM for the Vale, Jane Hutt, has congratulated Cowbridge Post Office on its successful application to the Post Office diversification fund.

The AM said: "The Post Office is one of 75 across Wales to be awarded part of approved grants of £1.55m over two financial years to help sub-postmasters and sub-postmistresses diversify and improve their facility. It aims to help with business and marketing advice, advertising, training and some set-up costs for new services."

Funding could also be sought for improvements, such as creating better access to buildings, upgrading computer equipment, improving security or providing better signs for the outside of premises.

The AM went on: "I am delighted that Cowbridge is to benefit from this fund. Post offices are at the heart of the community and are often a lifeline for vulnerable people.

"This money will help us to keep Post Offices open by ensuring that sub postmasters and sub postmistresses have sustainable and viable businesses. I am pleased that so many Post Offices in Wales have been able to take advantage of the fund."

Art society hands awards to its exhibition winners

COWBRIDGE Art Society recently held its annual dinner and presentation of trophies, and pictured (right) are some of the trophy winners in the society's annual exhibition that ended on December 4.

Left to right: Deirdre Schweitzer, Nick Hawksworth, Dina Richards (treasurer), Doug Lewis, Sandra Wintle, the exhibition's adjudicator Martyn Jones, Brenda Dwek, Ann Beresford (chairman), Ann Tanswell and Rae Kitchen.

The society draws members from across a wide area of the Vale, as well as Bridgend county borough.

ACTION STATIONS!

IT has been a busy season for Maendy Young Farmers Club, which has seen competitions, social events and club activities galore, and this is sure to continue during the run-up to Christmas.

Recently, club members Kate Thomas, Zolly Whitaker, Rose Lubin and Connie Rees competed in the Glamorgan round of the Intermediate (under-21) Brainstrust: a public speaking competition for which the topics are not revealed until 20 minutes prior to competing.

The all-girls team, who have never taken part in this competition before and are all under-17 years old, were extremely professional and achieved first place among a high standard of competitors rewarded their hard work.

Club chairman Natalie Lewis achieved second place for the senior member of the year competition, which also saw a strong field of entrants.

To get in the festive spirit, members are having an evening of carol singing around the Cowbridge/Ystradowen area on Tuesday, December 15, followed by food and drinks at the White Lion.

Family, friends and supporters of Maendy YFC are invited to join the club in the pub afterwards.

Contact Natalie if you would like to book food, on 07935 585041, or 07841 486440.

As always, Maendy will also be organising a bus trip to Carmarthenshire YFC's annual Lady Ambassador's Ball (Queen's Ball) on Tuesday, December 22 at Oceana Nightclub in Swansea. Contact Natalie by Friday, December 11, for tickets.

HL

Chocolate delights for Christmas

THE monthly meeting of Penllyn and District WI was held on December 1, in Penllyn Village Hall.

The meeting was opened by president Novello Peters, and the minutes of the last meeting were read by assistant secretary Jane Excell.

Members were reminded of forthcoming events, including the local link carol service and the federation carol service in Swansea, and the festive meal in January.

Yvonne Randall demonstrated how to make various types of chocolate truffles, and showed how to 'temper' chocolate.

Jane Excell showed various Christmas treats she had made, many taken from Nigella Lawson's Christmas cookbook.

The third workshop, led by Gill Watkins and assisted by Novello Peters, enabled members to create table centre decorations using candles and seasonal greenery. A collection was made to go towards the ACWW 'Light a Candle' project.

The demonstration providers were thanked by Novello Peters. The raffle was drawn, the competition of a 'Christmas decoration' was judged, and members then enjoyed a buffet provided by the committee, which included some of the 'goodies' made by Yvonne and Jane.

Several members attended the link carol service in St Bridget's Church, St Bride's Major, on Thursday, December 3.

The next meeting of the branch will be held in Penllyn Village Hall on Tuesday, January 5, at 7.30 pm, when David Allen will talk about his Nepalese experience

New members welcome. For further information, contact Novello on 01656 674191, or Marjorie on 01656 647115.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR THE YOUNG GYMNASTS

THE Welsh Schools Novice Gymnastics Championships were held at the Welsh Institute of Sport, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff.

Having qualified from the regional championships, the boys under-14 and girls under-12 teams did very well, with both teams finishing in silver medal positions.

Individual and team scores:

Boys under-14	Set vault	Vol vault	Set tumble	Vol floor	Total
Declan Thomas	8.1	8.3	7.5	7.8	31.7
Billie Jones	7.5	8.2	7.8	8.0	31.5
Joseph Ricketts	8.0	8.1	7.9	8.6	32.0
Alex Arnott	7.8	8.4	7.9	8.6	32.7

Team: 1st Monmouth, 100pts; 2nd Cowbridge, 97pts; 3rd Brynteg, 95pts.

Girls under-12	Set vault	Vol vault	Set tumble	Vol floor	Total
Eve Williams	7.8	8.2	8.1	7.9	32.0
Kathryn Rees	8.1	8.0	8.6	7.8	32.5
Ellie Eddy-Williams	7.7	8.3	8.0	8.0	32.0
Elle Medlicott	7.8	8.4	8.4	8.1	32.7
Jodi Sumner	7.4	8.3	8.4	8.2	32.3
Meg McNamee	8.0	8.2	8.1	7.9	32.2

Team: 1st Monmouth, 101pts; 2nd Cowbridge, 98.20pts; 3rd Brynteg, 97.50pts.

SWIMMING

THE Welsh Schools Swimming Championships were held at Swansea on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 27-29.

Pupils qualified for these championships through times sent in by clubs. The following pupils achieved the qualifying times – year-8: Cameron Jones, Greg Jerwood, Helen Fussey; year-9: Bethan Sloan; year-11: Joshua Thomas, Lloyd Jerwood.

Individual results (preliminary rounds) under-14 boys: 100 metres backstroke, Cameron Jones, 3rd, 1m 08.06; 200 metres individual medley, Cameron Jones, 4th, 2m 32.64, Greg Jerwood, 10th, 2m 38.63; 100 metres breaststroke, Cameron Jones, 5th, 1m22.23, Greg Jerwood, 10th, 1m 27.48; 200 metres backstroke, Cameron Jones, 2nd, 2m 25.69, Greg Jerwood, 7th, 2m 34.57; 400 metres freestyle, Cameron Jones, 7th, 4m 42.38; 100 metres butterfly, Greg Jerwood, 5th, 1m 04.84.

Under-14 girls: 200 metres freestyle, Helen Fussey, 6th, 2m 20.48; 200 metres individual medley, Helen Fussey, 11th, 2m 42.47; 800 metres individual medley, Helen Fussey, 3rd, 9m 58.53; 100 metres freestyle, Helen Fussey, 10th, 1m 06.13; 200 metres breaststroke, Helen Fussey, 10th, 3m 05.36; 200 metres breaststroke, Bethan Sloan, 12th, 3m 06.45; 400 metres freestyle; Helen Fussey, 4th, 4m 48.32.

Under-16 boys: 100 metres freestyle, Joshua Thomas, 2nd, 55.76; Lloyd Jerwood, 7th, 57.41; 200 metres freestyle, Joshua Thomas, 2nd, 2m 04.65.

The following pupils reached the final last eight in Wales: Under-14 boys: 100 metres backstroke, Cameron Jones, silver medal, 1m 08.27; 200 metres individual medley, Cameron Jones, 4th, 2m 30.58; 100 metres breaststroke, Cameron Jones, 5th, 1m 21.89; 200 metres backstroke, Cameron Jones, 4th, 2m 25.88, Greg Jerwood, 5th, 2m 32.31.

Under-14 girls: 200 metres freestyle, Helen Fussey, 8th, 2m 20.81.

Under-16 boys: 100 metres freestyle, Joshua Thomas, gold medal 53.40 secs, Lloyd Jerwood, 57.58; 200 metres freestyle, Joshua Thomas, gold medal 1m 56.71.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 36)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LLANBETHERY & LLANCARFAN

Your community correspondents are Sam & Patsie Smith on (01446) 751448

Charity board

ANOTHER reminder that as in previous years, there is a greetings board in the Fox and Hounds, for people to use instead of Christmas cards or as an extra. The donation is at your discretion and all money will go to the Macmillan Cancer Appeal.

Boxing Day

THE traditional Tug O'War and Duck Egg race will once again be held on Boxing Day, Saturday, December 26.

Duck egg sheets are now available at the Fox and Hounds and in church. All proceeds will go to the restoration fund for the Wall Paintings Appeal. The festivities usually start at about 12.30pm, with the race following the pull.

Power lunch for the Young at Heart Club

CHRISTMAS came early for the Rhoose Young At Heart Club as they sat down to lunch, courtesy of Aberthaw Power Station.

The donation meant that the group, who normally meet on Wednesday at Celtic Leisure Centre in Fonmon, had a three-course lunch with all the trimmings.

"We are very grateful to Aberthaw Power Station for supporting the club and it was nice to see everyone there enjoying themselves," said club treasurer, Mrs J Sims.

Police are calling time on traffic wardens in the Vale

by JAYNE ISAAC

TRAFFIC wardens are set to disappear from the streets of the Vale by the end of next year.

South Wales Police have announced that they will no longer enforce parking restrictions and other traffic orders – in order to save money.

They had intended to withdraw from April 1 next year, but have now agreed to postpone that until December 31, 2010.

Councils now have the power to enforce double yellow lines and other restrictions and could appoint their own wardens to 'police' the borough.

Police have been urging councils in south Wales to decriminalise parking and introduce civil parking enforcement.

A report to the Vale's cabinet has laid out all the implications involved.

Councils have to apply to the Welsh Assembly Government to assume the powers necessary.

All fines imposed from parking are retained by the council to pay for the cost of employing the wardens.

Council officers have warned that illegal and obstructive parking can create a serious road hazard as well as congestion.

They said that illegally parked vehicles can interfere with the free flow of traffic, stop the movement of emergency vehicles and buses and also affect driver visibility, screening pedestrians and cyclists.

At the moment, police employ two traffic wardens in the Vale but officers warn that this number will reduce over the next year as wardens seek new jobs and they are unlikely to be replaced. They point out that by next December, there may be very little enforcement by police of parking restrictions.

Councils who have already introduced civil enforcement, have had mixed results – with some eventually covering their costs from the fines – but others have failed to do so and have had to subsidise the scheme from other income.

Authorities throughout the South Wales Police area are affected and the cabinet has agreed to co-operate with Bridgend County Borough Council, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Merthyr in commissioning a study to look at all the issues.

SEWTA (South East Wales Transport Alliance) will also contribute £10,000 towards the cost. Each council will pay between £3,000 and £5,000.

The cabinet will receive a further report once this study has been completed and will then make a decision.

Golden gran takes swimming title

CHILDREN learning to swim at Barry Leisure Centre can now say that they are being taught by a 'master' of the pool – after instructor Julie Crayford became a double world champion at the age of 61.

Julie has just returned from Australia where she won two swimming gold medals and three silver in the senior equivalent of the Olympics – the 'World Masters Games' in Sydney.

More than 28,000 athletes from 95 countries went down under to compete in 28 different sports.

Julie is getting used to success, as her golds in the 100m butterfly and 200m individual medley join the 40 to 50 medals that she wins each year in various competitions.

She also currently holds 34 out of 35 Welsh records in her age group (60-64).

Originally from Southampton, Julie has lived in Barry for the last 30 years and has been a swimming instructor at the leisure centre since 1992.

LEFT: Swimming instructor Julie Crayford, with the two gold medals and three silvers she won at the 'World Masters Games' in Sydney.

Although she swam as a teenager at county level, she only took the plunge to get back into swimming competitively 15 years ago, as her children were getting older and she found she had more time to swim.

Julie now has two grandchildren, who aren't quite old enough yet to understand their gran's achievements, but her love of swimming is sure to rub off on them.

Julie said: "Swimming is a great way to get fit and gives you lots of energy. I really notice a difference if I haven't swum for a while."

Although she has been involved in hundreds of swimming races, Julie's biggest challenge came outside of the pool five years ago when she was diagnosed with breast cancer, which had also spread to her lymph nodes.

Julie said: "When I first found out I thought it was a death sentence. A lot of people don't like to talk about these things, but I am happy to show that you can go on to get better and recover."

Commending Julie on the excellent example she sets to others, the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest said:

"Research shows that around two thirds of people in Britain know how to swim but only go once a year or less.

"It's so easy for over-60s in particular as they are entitled to swim for free at leisure centres outside of school holidays."

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YOUNG MUSICIANS SHOW THAT THEY HAVE THE 'WOW' FACTOR

AUDIENCES were enthralled by the performances of the finalists in the concerts on Saturday and Sunday evenings for the Music in the Vale Young Musician of the Year competition.

The annual competition saw singers aged from 10-22 years of age and instrumentalists from 10-20 perform a wide range of music, culminating in the two evening concerts.

On Saturday, adjudicators Mair Roberts and Alun John started auditions for singers at 9.30am and heard competitors in three age categories, before choosing four from each group to perform in the evening concert.

In many cases, it proved a daunting task, as the pieces ranged from folk songs to operatic arias and the standard was high.

Some had competed in previous years, but for others it was their first performance opportunity.

Peter Reynolds and Michael Parkin adjudicated the instrumentalists on Sunday and heard a variety of instruments – bassoon, classical guitar, a number of harps as well as piano, cello and flute.

There were also four ensembles – one with three pianists playing on the same piano and another with a quartet of saxophonists!

Again the performances were exceptional and made it difficult for the judges to choose the finalists for the evening concert.

All the judges expressed their delight at the high standard of music they heard and encouraged the competitors to take every opportunity to perform in front of an audience.

They were keen to emphasise the value of competing, even if you were not the winner.

All competitors benefited from their detailed written adjudications.

As part of its aim to encourage young musical talent, Music in the Vale is able to offer winners and runners-up opportunities to perform in the foyer of the Wales Millennium Centre, as well as at the Senedd.

Music in the Vale is very grateful to local AM Jane Hutt, Minister for Education, who has supported the competition for many years and enjoyed the concerts on both evenings.

The AM said: "I was thrilled by two nights of outstanding performances from young singers and instrumentalists as a result of Music in the Vale's competition.

"We are very proud of our talented young people who performed so well, and I would like to congratulate them on all their hard work. I would also like to thank Music in the Vale for their tremendous voluntary efforts."

The weekend events were supported by many local dignitaries and Music in the Vale is fortunate to have sponsorship from the Vale Council, which helps to fund the annual competition.

The committee was also grateful to the comperes on both evenings who ensured the concerts ran smoothly, Dr Glenda Jones on Saturday and Dr David Hoskin on Sunday.

COMPETITION RESULTS

Young singer: Junior soloists, first prize, Mabli Tudur; runner-up, Seren Fflyr Hamilton. Intermediate soloists, first prize, Lisa Medi, runner-up, Rhydian Jenkins. Senior soloists, first prize, Rachel Marsh; runner-up, Phillippa Scammell.

A prize was also awarded to Nicola Caldwell for the Most Promising Young Singer living in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Young instrumentalist: Junior soloists, first prize, Noa Gabay (harp); runner-up, - NJ Horner (flute); Intermediate soloists, first prize, Rachel Starritt (piano), runner-up, Ben Tarlton (cello). Senior soloists, first prize, Leanne Cody (piano); runner-up, Daniel Gooch (saxophone).

Ensemble, first prize, Asa Sax Quartet, runner-up, Sain Pur (harp and flute)

A further prize was awarded to Ben Tarlton for Most Promising Young instrumentalist living in the Vale of Glamorgan .**RH**

Instrument Ensemble Asa Sax Quartet.

Young instrumentalist, Leanne Cody.

Young singer, Rachel Marsh.

Local inventor praised for gold medal exploits

VALE AM, Jane Hutt, recently met Wenvoe-based inventor of pioneering marine rescue aid, Cadarn Talon, Rob Stone, who won double gold and platinum awards at the British Invention Awards.

"Rob Stone is one of the first inventors in Wales to benefit from the Assembly Government's £36 million business innovation programme, supported by European funds, bringing business to two local companies, SARO Engineering Ltd and Newport and Dragon Laser Ltd of Bridgend," Ms Hutt said.

"I was keen to meet Rob Stone to congratulate him on his great achievement and to hear more about his invention which presents major opportunities for Marine Rescue on a commercial basis.

"I was impressed with the invention which Rob showed me, and his commitment to supporting Welsh businesses is exemplary," she commented.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

CONGRATULATIONS – A new baby boy has been born to the new family hairdressers at The Old Post Office, St Brides Major.

OGMORE BY SEA Retired Residents Association met for their last meeting of the year at the Watermill, Ogmore village for their Christmas lunch.

THE Southerndown branch of the Women's Institute acted as hostesses to the local WI group when they joined for carols at St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major, followed by mince pies and coffee.

THE sun shone for the church Christmas fayre held at the church hall. There were lots of stalls laden with Christmas goodies, tombola, super raffles and face-painting, raising about £800.

A-Z raffle at the Heritage Coast Centre on December 6 was followed by a quiz arranged by Ranger Paul Dunn, with local bird song and 'guess things' that can be seen on the shore – a most interesting afternoon followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

ON December 8, parishioners met at the Fox and Hounds for a meal to celebrate the birthday of Sheila Morris (Vicar's wife) which now entitles her to a 'bus pass'. Congratulations and many happy returns!

IT is said to report the death of Mary Davies of Slade, Southerndown, after a long illness bravely borne. The funeral service took place at St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major on Wednesday, December 9.

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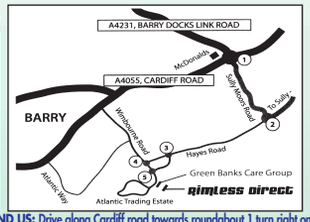

Welsh wing wizard Shane arrives at local school's Christmas fayre (complete with dodgy hamstring!)

ON balance, Wales' flying winger Shane Williams would probably have preferred to be available to play for the Barbarians against New Zealand but, despite the disappointment of suffering a hamstring strain, he still made the trip to the Vale for Pendoylan Church-in-Wales School's Christmas fayre.

The winger was the centre of attention, and young and old were all keen to pass on their best wishes and, of course, to have their photograph taken with him!

PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON

Christmas spectacular at St David's Hall

NEWS FROM THE LLANHARRY WI

RECENTLY a full minibus left Llanharry on a very wet morning, bound for St David's Hall, Cardiff, for the WI's 'Deck the Hall for Christmas'.

Demonstrations, workshops, stands and competitions stretched over the whole of the five floors. It really was a spectacular day, very much enjoyed by all.

An extra meeting was held the following evening and Deuanne Griffiths gave a floral demonstration. Four arrangements were skilfully put together and many tips and ideas passed on.

Llanharry Workingmen's Club was again the venue for Christmas dinner on December 1. Members were looked after very well by Graham and Jane Ryan, who provided a delicious traditional dinner. Elizabeth Jervis also celebrated her birthday.

Rita Butt was presented with The Joan Thomas Shield for winning the most competitions. Ros Griffiths won the prize for the best wrapped parcel.

The next night 14 members joined the 'Bordervale Group' for a Christmas social evening, hosted by Ystradowen WI.

Refreshments and mulled win were enjoyed, and each of the our institutes took part in the entertainment. The evening concluded with everyone singing traditional Christmas carols.

The final meeting of the lunch club is on December 11, at the Bear Inn, Llanharry.

New programmes have been distributed and 'comic characters from stage to screen' is the title for the talk on January 5. **JR**

'Tenants are being excluded'

I HAVE been reading in the local press of the proposal to transfer the Vale housing stock.

I enjoy the provision of Vale Council Housing (call it social housing if you must).

I have concluded, quite early in the process of so-called consultation, that there exists a view residents of council housing are gullible and devoid of any intellect with which to determine the pros and cons of such a proposal. However, such a stance is taken by those in power at their peril!

I believe that the initial notification that we have been given as existing tenants, amounts to little more than designed propaganda geared to ensure the desired outcome, and that many decisions have already been made.

Also, I am concerned about possible empire-building.

If a new housing association is set up, I would advocate that if the existing senior management of the current housing stock are unable to make the current operation a success, they should be automatically disqualified from applying for posts in any new housing association management.

I am so concerned that local people and tenants are being excluded from having their say based upon factual and current information that.

I have set up my own web blog at *http://scrutinisevalecouncil.blogspot.com.*

Colin Wood,
Barry

'AUTHORITIES SHOULD ACT MORE DECISIVELY AGAINST THE BULLIES'

– SAYS FATHER OF SCHOOLBOY

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A BARRY couple, whose teenage son has had two breakdowns due to bullying, claim too much time was devoted to understanding the bullies rather than acting decisively against them.

The couple came to The GEM because they wanted to highlight what they perceive as a flaw in the way the authorities confront the blight of classroom bullying.

The father of the boy, once a teacher himself, explained: "The trouble is that the teachers approach the problem with a humanistic attitude of trying to understand, rather than dealing with it.

"Bullying initiatives are too woolly and liberal."

The youngster told The GEM: "My problems started in October 2005. I was physically, verbally and emotionally bullied. I was frequently hit, although not to the extent of being knocked out.

"Prior to that date I'd had problems, but a senior pastoral carer at the school dealt with things and gave me good strategies to cope."

Things deteriorated when that teacher retired, and a group of seven pupils, with a hardcore of five, made his life miserable for the next four years.

He said: "The new pastoral carer did not seem to know what he was doing.

He told me: 'I'll speak to them and get it sorted', but it got worse and worse."

The family cite the 'safe zone' strategy at the school, in which a victimised pupil goes to a particular room to escape the bullies, as a misconceived idea.

The father explained: "It means the victim is isolated, while the bullies retain their liberty.

"They were spoken to but not disciplined.

"To deal with this problem a teacher has to be properly trained, but has to have something else too – courage, backbone and fortitude.

"The teacher has to be prepared to fight the perpetrators, their parents and sometimes even their colleagues – but this didn't happen."

The father added that he attributed the success of the first teacher to the fact that he was "old school, and would not put up with any nonsense".

The teenager suffers from dyspraxia – in his case it manifests itself as poor co-ordination skills and a lack of spatial awareness, which means he can stand closer to someone than would be the accepted social norm. The family say the school have always been aware of the problems he faces.

Last Christmas, the teenager had a breakdown and the family say their GP said he would not return to school "until I deem fit".

He was off until February, but two days after returning the bullying started again.

The family say the pastoral carer even said that he "couldn't guarantee his safety".

At the end of September, he was forced to leave again.

The teenager said: "I was so relieved to know that I wouldn't have to be dealing with stupid things like that any more."

His mother said: "He has been put under sedation because he has been petrified.

"At least now he doesn't wander round the house saying 'don't hit me, don't hit me'."

The family now believe there is no solution to the impasse that exists between them and the school, and that their son will have to stay at home permanently.

The father said: "Because he has been failed, he will probably have to have a home tutor.

"He is not the only person to have suffered this at the school. We know of another case of a child with dyspraxia who has also had to leave."

The Vale's director of learning and development, Bryan Jeffreys, stated:

"The council is not in a position to comment on the circumstances of a case involving an individual pupil.

"We can confirm, however, that the facts of this case are a matter of dispute.

"All Vale of Glamorgan schools have clear and unambiguous anti-bullying policies and procedures, which have been adopted following consultations with pupils," Mr Jeffreys concluded.

FRIENDS OF DYFFRYN NEWS

Bee experts create a 'buzz' at Friends meeting

by ELERI EVANS

THE first Friends of Dyffryn coffee morning created a real 'buzz' with members!

More than 30 'Friends' turned up to listen to bee experts Harold Williams, who manages the bees at Fonmon Castle, and Barbara Chick, who manages the bee hives at St Fagan's, talk about reintroducing bee hives to Dyffryn Gardens.

Three hives have been installed in the gardens and it is hoped Dyffryn honey will be on sale next year.

It has been around 80 years since there were bee hives in the historic garden and it is hoped the project will raise awareness of how precious honey bees are to the environment.

Honey bees are worth £200m to Britain's economy.

It is estimated that every third mouthful of food we eat is pollinated by bees – but they are disappearing at an alarming rate.

Friends heard that honey bees were under threat from varroa, a parasitic mite that attacks honeybees. It came to the UK in the 1980s. Honey bees can't cope with it. It feeds on the body of the bee, transmitting various viruses before the bee colony finally collapses. Other threats include climate change, insecticides and loss of habitat.

Two of the three hives at Dyffryn have come from long established bee hives at Fonmon Castle and in Caerphilly.

The third hive is the result of a swarm of honey bees that attached themselves to a church in Cardiff. It was collected and brought to Dyffryn by Barbara Chick, who will manage the Dyffryn apiary.

To encourage people to take up bee keeping, Dyffryn Gardens is running a beginners bee keeping course in February 2010.

The course will run over four afternoons. The dates are: Sunday, February 7, Saturday, February 20, Sunday, February 28 and Saturday, March 6.

The sessions will run from 1pm-5pm.

Chairman of the Cardiff and Vale Beekeepers Association, John King, is collecting names. There has been a great deal of interest so a waiting list has been set up.

Barbara (far left) and Harold (far right) with Friends after the meeting.

PORTHCAWL NEWS/IN BRIEF

PORTHCAWL Town Council has been presented with a plaque by the Porthcawl Lifeguards for its help to the club over the years.

PORTHCAWL Lions raised £500 at their book fayre.

THE new gates installed at the entrance to Newton Allotments have been given the nod of approval from the Charity Commission.

The Commission stated that it was in order for the trustees of the site to give consent for the gates.

A MEETING of the dog fouling group at Porthcawl is to meet before the end of the year to discuss what impact the doggie road show and the distribution of dog fouling awareness posters has had upon the town.

Enforcement officers from BCBC will be asked to attend.

Coun Chris Smart said that the council should remember that it had a policy of zero tolerance towards dog fouling.

PORTHCAWL Town Council is to apply to Bovril for a grant under their Great Outdoor Revival theme to pay towards installing a sensory garden at the Wilderness site.

PORTHCAWL Town Council has made a grant of £350 towards the Christmas Morning Swim, but applications from Shelter Cymru, Bobath Children's Therapy Centre and the National Eisteddfod were refused.

A PROPOSAL from Coun Sean Aspey to consider a Christmas Day Alone Project has been ruled out by Porthcawl Town Council.

He wanted the council to organise a Christmas lunch for residents of the town who would be spending Christmas Day alone. Members felt that it was a commendable project but was not practicable for the council to do.

PORTHCAWL town councillors who wish to have business cards can do so at their own expense and can use the council's crest.

PORTHCAWL Town Council is to seek estimates of the cost of providing a pavement between Mallard Way at Rest Bay and the Ocean View Flats. Once this information has been received, the Capital Project Committee will consider the project.

THE maintenance man employed by Porthcawl Town Council on a part-time basis is to become a full time employee from April, because of the amount of work needed to be done.

COUN Alana Davies is to investigate the cost implications of providing a pedestrian crossing on Newton Nottage Road and will report back to Porthcawl Council's capital projects committee.

KERRY Marlowe of the Porthcawl Athletic Association, is to be invited to meet members of Porthcawl Town Council to explain what work is needed to be done at the playing fields in Lock's Lane.

THE annual Jenkin Henry Tea takes place on Saturday, at the Porthcawl Rest Home.

The tea is for the oldest residents of the town and the town council will be hiring mini buses to take people to the event.

PORTHCAWL town council is to ask BCBC for suggestions about where extra toilet facilities may be needed in the town.

A report will be made to the capital projects committee.

Travel shop collects for Ty Hafan

THE annual Santa's Suitcase appeal organised by staff in the Co-operative Travel Shop in Llantwit Major is underway.

Each year, the shop collects either new or good quality second hand toys and games for the children at Ty Hafan.

"We had a car full last time," said manager Bennie Bryan. "I am hoping we can at least match that this year."

The appeal is run by the company nationally and many branches take part.

"We need items for all ages," she added. "Ty Hafan caters for children from babies up to teenagers."

People wishing to donate items should drop them off, unwrapped, to the shop.

"We need to examine everything that comes in so it's better if it is not packed," she said. "We will be collecting right up until December 22."

The Cowbridge Gallery
NOW OPEN
Cowbridge Gallery is pleased to display a wide variety of original art from established and emerging artists, from the timeless works of Aneurin Jones to the wonderfully vibrant paintings of Helen Elliott.
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NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOMS AT YSGOL BRO MORGANNWG

Millennium Centre

PUPILS from the school's talented writing squad participated in the Wales Millennium Centre's fifth anniversary celebrations.

Over the past few months the group have written an anthem, with the help of bard Ceri Elen, and in conjunction with composer John Hardy have set the words to music.

They were invited along with two other schools to perform their anthem in the Millennium Centre as part of the festivities.

In celebration of the anniversary, Welsh National Opera, Academi and Ty Cerdd came together with the three groups of young people to write an anthem.

IN BRIEF

THE St John Ambulance, Barry division, is holding a table-top sale, on Saturday, December 12, between 12noon-4pm, at the St John Hall, Beryl Road.

50p entrance fee includes a cup of coffee/tea and a festive mince pie. Visit Santa, craft stalls, tombolla, raffle and nearly-new items.

Boxing Day swim

THE Whitmore Bay SLSC Boxing Day swim will be held on December 26.

Meet outside Voluntary Lifeguard Station, Barry Island at 11.30am; swim to take place at 12pm.

Members of the public wishing to refresh themselves after Christmas Day are welcome to join in!

Public speaking

OUR sixth formers year on year are consistently achieving high accolades for their public speaking skills.

This year's team consisting of Ruth Pilcher, Mollie Arbuthnot and Jacob Ellis have reached the next round of the Rotary competition, having beaten off stiff opposition from other schools in the south east region. We wish them well in their encounters with pupils from Bryntawe School, Swansea.

ABOVE: Public speaking.

School is a digital revolutionary when it comes to technology!

ABOVE: Becta award winners.

YSGOL GYFUN BRO MORGANNWG has been named as the region's top school, when it comes to the use of technology, at Becta's ICT Excellence Awards 2009.

The prestigious accolade of 'Best Whole School' is awarded to just one school in the region annually. The school beat off stiff competition to collect the award at Bristol's newest science venue, At-Bristol, on Thursday, November 19.

To win the award, staff had to demonstrate they have successfully placed technology at the heart of both learning and wider school management.

The Welsh Medium comprehensive wowed the judges with its collaboration with a local company to develop a high-tech system that allows teachers to assess, track, record and set targets for students to help them fulfil their potential.

Stephen Crowne, chief executive of Becta, said: "Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg is a shining example of what can be done. Becta is committed to helping schools achieve similar results so that all learners have the opportunity to get the most from their time at school."

Dilwyn Owen, ICT subject leader at Bro Morgannwg School, said: "We are delighted to have won the award and it is an honour to be the first Welsh-speaking school to have done so. The achievement of a national award confirms that our commitment and investment in ICT is having a huge impact on the opportunities we offer our pupils".

Sporting success

THE first rugby team's amazing unbeaten run continues and they remain firmly at the top of the league, looking down on teams from larger schools who have larger squads and far more experience than them. The boys are enjoying the experience of travelling to schools throughout the south east and naturally thrive on hosting games at Bro Morgannwg.

Following on from notable wins against Cowbridge and Brynteg, they have beaten Glantaf in a closely fought battle and have also progressed to the next round of the cup, following their win against Brynmawr.

MEDIA4SCHOOLS

AS part of her Media coursework, year-12 student Nicole Petty's short film was highly commended in an awards ceremony held recently by Media 4 Schools.

Pupils from Bro Morgannwg have also taken part in a film entitled 'Flying High: Careers in the Welsh Aerospace Industry'. This film was previewed recently in Bridgend.

AT ASSEMBLY

TWO year-12 pupils were chosen to introduce guest speakers who included First Minister Rhodri Morgan AM, local AM Jane Hutt and Keith Towler, the children's Commissioner for Wales at an event at the Assembly.

Dignitaries and young people gathered to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (the UNCRC).

Gourmet cooks

CONGRATULATIONS to special cooks who have recently won competitions at local level and who will now proceed to represent the Vale at national level.

The school's main cook, Jane Pitman won through to the next heat of School Chef of the Year, and year-11 pupils Zoe Kelland progressed to the national finals of Future Chefat Wrexham in February.

JC Electric Ltd – keeping people warm this Christmas

BASED at Brynmenyn Industrial Estate, Bridgend, JC Electric are electrical wholesalers and are one of Wales' leading stockists of Dimplex heating products.

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News in brief

Tabernacle coffee

TABERNACLE Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major, will hold a Christmas coffee morning on Saturday, December 12, at 10am-12.30pm. Tickets £1.50. Everyone welcome.

Tree festival

THE Christmas tree festival at St Augustines Church, Penarth, takes place on Saturday, December 12, from 11am to 6pm and on December 13, from 12noon to 3pm.

Admission £2.50, concessions £2, children enter free.

In the afternoon, the Cavatina Singers sing seasonal songs and on Sunday at 7.30pm, Cantemus Choir Wales give a concert to include Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, with Ceri Wynne-Jones (harp).

Available all day at the Parish Hall will be home-made soup, filled rolls and homemade mince pies.

Saturday morning 'Breakfast with Santa' in the Parish Hall, at 9.30am and at 10.45am – the children follow a piper with Santa to the tree festival.

Gathering Place Christmas fayre

THERE is a Christmas table-top fayre at The Gathering Place on Saturday, December 12, from 11am-12.30pm.

Lots of exciting things including: Christmas gifts and decorations, jewellery, pashminas, china dolls, Psio – The Numerologist, children's colouring competition, cakes, refreshments and Christmas raffle.

Free admission *Telephone 01446 751885 for details.*

Candlelit service at Lavernock

THE Friends of St Lawrence at Lavernock, the listed medieval foundation on the coast between Sully and Lavernock, are holding a candlelit service of 'Nine Lessons' and Christmas carols on Sunday, December 13, at 3pm, to which all are welcome.

Honorary chaplain Rev Margaret Stark will lead the service and the organist will be Mrs Alwena Harries.

Free parking is available and after the service all are invited to the Marconi Holiday Village for mince pies and mulled wine, courtesy of Mr Colin Kitsell and colleagues. *Enquiries to 02920 707776.*

Valeways winter walks

WINTER walk to Barry Island, Sunday, December 13 (2pm). Meet at Redbrink Crescent (entrance to Jackson Bay).

North from Llysworney Wood, Wednesday, December 16 (1.30pm). Meet at Carne Arms, Llysworney

Talygarn, Tuesday, December 22 (2pm). Meet at Talygarn, side road before church near Millennium Heritage Trail sign.

Penarth Ramblers Festival of winter walks – The Downs and St George, on Sunday, December 27 (10am). An easy four-mile walk. Meet at the Downs (A48 top of Culverhouse Cross hill).

Golden Stairs to Porthkerry Church, Monday, December 28 (10.30am). Meet at All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry.

Walks last 60-90 minutes. *For further information telephone 01446 749000.*

Winter concert

THE Dinas Powys Orchestra winter concert on December 14, features local cellist Ben Tarlton (aged 14) as guest soloist in Elgar's *Cello Concerti*; also Beethoven's *8th Symphony* and Schubert's overture *Rosamunde*.

Venue: Bradenstoke Hall, Atlantic College, St Donats, Llantwit Major. *Contact 01446 796733 or www.cdpo.org.uk.*

Lovelight service

THE Llantwit Major Friends of Tenovus are holding the annual 'lovelight service' on Tuesday, December 15, at 7.30pm in St Illtud's Church.

A spokeswoman said: "The service offers a chance to light a candle in love, honour, or in memory of someone we love. We may wish to celebrate a new life, give thanks for a healing, ask for a blessing for someone very dear to us, or offer a prayer for those who are sick and suffering.

"Particularly, this year we also offer prayers for our forces in Afghanistan and their families."

Carol singing

THE Rotary Club of Cowbridge and Cowbridge Lower School Choir, accompanied by PiCoLo Junior Orchestra and friends, present Community Carol Singing, at 6pm, on Wednesday, December 16, at Cowbridge Town Hall.

All are welcome, admission is free.

Circus Berzercus

THE Gibbonsdown and Court Youth Forum is presenting a two-man circus show, entitled 'Komedy of Errors' by Circus Berzercus, at the YMCA (HUB), Court Road, Barry, on December 16, starting at 7pm.

For more information contact 01446 732406.

Messiah highlights

COR-BRO OGWR will give a charity performance on December l6 at 7-30pm, in Hope Chapel, Bridgend, with highlights from Handel's *Messiah*.

Soloists: Soprano, Lisa Pearce-Coleman; alto, Rhiannon Thomas; tenor, Gareth Treseder; bass, Cian Brennan Gavin. Organist, Glen Crookes; conductor, Edward-Rhys Bate.

Tickets £5. Proceeds in aid of Y Bont.

Holy Trinity services

THERE are several events taking place in Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, Barry, over Christmas.

On Friday, December 18, from 10.30am-12noon, carols, coffee and mince pies.

At 7pm on the same day, the WI are holding their carol service.

On Sunday, December 20, at 11am, the Boys Brigade and Youth have their Christmas presentation.

There is a Christmas Day family service at 8am. Everyone is welcome to the church.

Family Christmas concert

THE RAF St Athan Voluntary Band presents a 'family Christmas concert' with carols, stories, solos and songs for everyone, on Saturday, December 19, at 2.30pm, in Llantwit Major School hall.

Special guests are Courtney Hamilton and Sian Pickett.

Tickets £5 (under-14 freee), available from Chris Davies Estate Agents, East Street, Llantwit Major or tlephone 01446 797318.

Aberthin carols

ABERTHIN village Christmas carol service with readings will be held on Sunday, December 20, at 10.45am, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Further details on 01446 774156.

VALE PACT MEETINGS

PENDOYLAN Community Council meeting, Pendoylan School, this evening (December 10), 7.45pm.

SULLY PACT, Jubilee Hall, today (December 10), 8pm.

PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY, 'Cuppa with a Copper', Three Horseshoes public house, December 15, 11am.

RHOOSE PACT surgery, Rhoose Post Office, December 15, 10am.

ST HILARY coffee and chat meeting, village hall, December 15, 11am.

LLANDOW PACT, Ewenny Village Hall, December 16, 7pm.

BUTTRILLS PACT, Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, December 17, 6.30pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.our-bobby.com

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BOB'S BIRTHDAY BASH!

***RIGHT:** Popular High Street trader Bob Armstrong of Dr Bob's Balloons celebrated his 50th birthday with family, friends and local business people at a special party held at the Memorial Hall – and on hand were two dodgy-looking 'members of the press' Pete Gamble and Russell Wells of Pick N Mix Circus.*

Vale Labour group will raise 'serious concerns' over closure of local care home

THE Labour group on the Vale Council has said that when the subject of Bryneithin Care Home is discussed by a scrutiny committee on December 17, it will express its "serious concerns about the decision to close the home".

by TIM CHAPMAN

Coun Stuart Egan, the group's spokeperson on social care, said:

"All the evidence demonstrates that the actual need for residential care and, in particular, EMI provision, will increase as the population lives longer, but the Tory-led council and cabinet have chosen to decrease its provision.

"Although money has been available for grants from the Welsh Assembly Government for a number of years for building Extra Care facilities, the Vale Council still has no provision.

"Labour councillors have continued to demonstrate that there are better ways of dealing with Bryneithin, and that the site could be used as an Extra Care facility and an older people's complex with the required support on site.

"This issue is to be discussed at scrutiny committee on December 17 and the Labour group will be expressing its serious concerns about the cabinet's decision to close the home."

Dr Ian Johnson, the Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale, said:

"The council claimed that there would be four options available to the home, but in spite of other options being left open in the council's own papers, they have chosen not to follow that route and are instead aiming to close the site as quickly as they can manage it."

On December 2, the council cabinet agreed to closure of the home.

The council says accommodation at Ty Dyfan in Barry will be newly-refurbished, modern and specifically designed to cater well for the needs of residents from Bryneithin with dementia-related illnesses. It said residents who do not transfer to Ty Dyfan for reasons of choice will be supported to find alternative suitable accommodation.

The cabinet member for social and care services, Coun Dorothy Turner, said:

"The cabinet gave very careful consideration to all the information available, including the evidence from the public consultation process and the options appraisal.

"We acknowledged the strength of feeling against closure, especially on the part of families of current residents.

"However, the options involving the refurbishment of Bryneithin were ruled out for a range of reasons – including that they would require residents to be relocated at least twice to allow for the extensive work which is needed.

"Also, the building would retain many of the design flaws and known deficiencies that prevent the council from providing a standard of care that is in keeping with the rising expectations of service users and external regulators.

"The costs would prevent the council from making effective use of the resources available to meet constantly growing levels of need for residential care places which can accommodate older people who suffer from dementia related illnesses."

Phil Evans, director of social services, added: *"We know that relatives are very concerned about possible harm to their loved ones in transferring to another home.*

"There are risks and the closure plan has been put together very carefully to reduce the impact upon the health and wellbeing of the Bryneithin residents, wherever possible.

"Any change will be based on assessment by qualified relevant staff, including clinicians, before a final decision is made about individual residents.

"The Local Health Board has offered to assist with this work. We will ensure adequate planning and preparation time, seeking to avoid any move during the winter months.

"We will welcome involvement by relatives in contributing to the detail within the closure plan," he concluded.

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'Thanks to everyone who helped with Llantwit Major's Christmas lights'

THE Llantwit Major Christmas illuminations committee has many people to thank after last weekend's 'switch-on'.

First, our thanks go to Mr Hunt from Filco Stores for the use of the Precinct for the farmers' market and craft stalls, (the current licensing laws make it unviable to place them elsewhere).

A special mention goes to the wonderful young people of Llantwit who, despite the wet weather, threw themselves wholeheartedly into the event by being very helpful, entertaining with Major Music, Rebound Dancers and Stage Door 1, by joining in the Lantern Parade, and by helping as part of the ATC.

Among the stallholders were pupils from Llantwit Comprehensive who were very happy to raise £60 to buy goats. We also are very grateful to our fine Llantwit policemen, Matt and Colin, who provided Santa with transport.

Thanks go to Santa himself and his companions in the grotto, who enjoyed their time with the little children, and all the stall-holders who helped to make the event a success. Rev Howard Heyburn of Bethel Church, who is soon to be leaving Llantwit Major for pastures new, was kind enough to say a prayer for us all, and Cantorian Illtud led the carol singing. The stage management by Eddie Risby was impeccable as usual.

Our special thanks go to our sponsors Llantwit Major Town Council, The Vale Council, who also kindly allowed us to use the Town Hall car park, n-power and Colston Lettings.

We were also very glad to be able to borrow tents thanks to the new 'Vale Event Project' run by Vale event officer Sarah Jones. Putting them up and taking them down was a lengthy exercise but the help from the ATC, Couns Bob Gant and Eddie Williams and Byron and son was invaluable.

2009 was our first year in charge and we have learnt a few lessons, so next year should be bigger and better!

Janet Moisan,secretary, Llantwit Major Christmas Illuminations Committee.

HIGH STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON – A BIG SUCCESS DESPITE THE RAIN

LARGE crowds converged on High Street in Barry on Saturday night for the switching on of the Christmas lights.

Undaunted by the almost continuous rain, people were treated to carol singing from local school children, a visit from Father Christmas, and a procession led by the Barry Blue Lagoons Marching Band.

Twelve local schoolchildren, winners of a High Street Traders competition, helped to switch on the lights.

PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON

Out and About with The GEM

Kelly's Box is a beguiling and intriguing proposition

FOR a man who had the cinematic world at his feet, Richard Kelly has certainly slipped off the radar in recent years.

Having blasted onto the public conscious with twisted time travel film *Donnie Darko*, Kelly allowed the iron to cool considerably, following *Darko* up five years later with *Southland Tales*, a future-based epic that forgot to include a decipherable plot in its mix, and met with a considerably lower fanfare than that of its progenitor.

Kelly's latest sees him adapt Richard Matheson's short story, 'Button, Button', itself the inspiration for a *Twilight Zone* episode, with *The Box*. James Marsden and Cameron Diaz are Arthur and Norma Lewis, a suburban couple struggling to make ends meet.

When a mysterious stranger (Frank Langella) arrives on their doorstep one day, he offers them a way out – a box with a red button, and should either of them press the button they will be bequeathed $1million.

The downside, however, is that someone, somewhere, will die as a result, and with only 24 hours for the couple to decide, they must face up to this huge moral dilemma, little realising the magnitude of the decision they are to make...

The Box is a film with an intriguing and highly interesting premise – were a stranger to offer you the same deal being offered to the Lewis', would you take it?

Given the somewhat prescient nature of the film during a period of recession, it is a proposal that some may be inclined to accept, and forms the basis of a film that is never less than absorbing.

It is certainly a peculiar film, taking a moral conundrum and running with it to the furthest reaches of imagination, yet it is to Richard Kelly's credit that he keeps the film motoring along nicely.

Kelly wrote and directed here, and both the script and his direction wear their influences on their sleeve without being too slavish in their devotion.

There is more than a faint nod and wink to the likes of *The Twilight Zone* (unsurprising given the story's origins) and *The Shining*, but Kelly uses these cleverly, the 1970s setting of the film lending itself an ambience that these influences accentuate.

His direction is very much steeped in the 1970s thriller, using plenty of static shots and clever framings to draw maximum impact.

He cleverly uses the film's 12A rating to make the scares that pervade the film more psychological than visceral.

It is here that the similarities to *The Shining* are most apparent, Kelly's cold detachment reminiscent of some of Kubrick's more subdued scares (just watch out for the scarily blank faces of certain characters) which helps to create a mood of both mystery and underlying fear in what may happen next.

His script also does a good job of laying the mystery on while slowly drip feeding the audience information.

It is a neat trick that keeps you captivated throughout and takes the film away from the set-up and into another realm entirely, a move that will either leave you feeling satisfied as the story unfolds or leaves you thinking 'what on earth'.

Personally, it is a shift that works within Kelly's framework, taking the story into an unexpected area that feels very much akin, tonally, to the works that Kelly is both influenced by and pays lip service to.

He draws strong performances from both Cameron Diaz and James Marsden as the couple whose world is turned upside down by the offer they receive.

While the former's accent doesn't quite work out, her performance is strong, capturing beautifully the gamut of emotions that the character is being put through, while Marsden offers up another good turn as the husband who is somewhat perfunctory to the main narrative thrust, but is given purpose by the actor's solid performance.

However, the strongest turn on show is Frank Langella's stranger, offering the world without the victims ever really knowing the true cost of his deal. He is stoic and emotionless, perfectly keeping things hidden until Kelly decides it's time to reveal elements of his character.

Langella's turn, accentuated by some clever effects, is made even scarier by the character's otherworldliness, unaffected by the pleas of the characters whose life he has turned into a living hell.

The film's biggest flaw is, to my mind, also its biggest strength, with its overarching air of puzzlement and questions either a clever way to build up suspense or a frustrating way to pay off such a clever concept – the latter camp may feel that the film is ultimately a case of 'great set-up, poor execution; but if you are in the first camp then *The Box* is perplexing yet thoroughly beguiling film that will both entertain and intrigue.

VERDICT – A return to form for Richard Kelly, *The Box* is a film that may well divide filmgoers, but if you found yourself enjoying *Donnie Darko,* then you'll be on sure footing here.

Raising interesting moral questions while reflecting them through a Twilight Zone prism, it is somewhat of a love-it-or-hate-it experience, but one that is well worth watching.

Enjoyable.

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

TV's Don entertains Dinas Powys Rotary

ON November 26, the members of Dinas Powis Rotary Club had a very special guest at its meeting in Don Llewellyn, a retired award-winning television producer, director and writer.

Don is a life member of Pentyrch RFC, of which he is a former captain and president, and has been a member of the Welsh Rugby Writers' Association for more than three decades.

Don gave a very interesting and humorous talk on experiences in his home village, his work with TV and his passion for the game of rugby.

A notable story was concerning two local men sitting on a park bench in Pentyrch and noticing a TV mast being erected at Wenvoe.

Later the same two men sat on the same bench in the village and noticed a smaller mast being built about one-third of the size alongside – "Oh, I know," said one of the men, "that must be for children's TV."

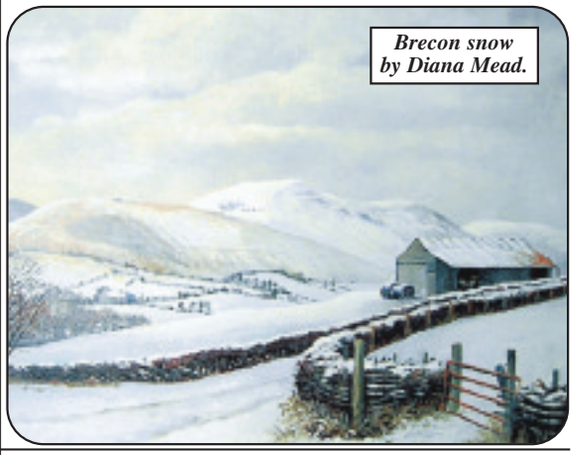
A vote of thanks was given by Dave Phillips and everyone present joined him in thanking Don for a humorous and interesting speaker's evening.

Local artist hosts charity open day at Penarth

DIANA MEAD is holding her second open day at 77, Coleridge Avenue, Penarth, on Saturday (December 12) from 11am-4.30pm.

This complements her current exhibition at Foxy's Deli, Penarth, with more original oil and watercolour paintings, prints, cards (including Christmas cards) and notelets.

As with the main exhibition, the open day is in aid of Crossroads in the Vale, the Caring for Carers charity.



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Competition entries to: FELINFOEL BREWERY COMPETITION, c/o Glamorgan Gem Ltd., Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL.
Closing date **Thursday, 17th December.** Normal competition rules apply. No correspondence will be entered into. Entrants must be over 18 years of age.

AM PRAISES NEW ART EXHIBITION

THE Vale AM Jane Hutt admired the exhibition 'union of time and space' at the Cannon Hill Arts Space in Barry.

She congratulated artists Glyn Pooley and Christie Reat-Bowen for their "inspirational work" on display until December 19.

"It is fantastic to see the Cannon Arts Space being developed for artists for studios and exhibitions of this kind. Well worth a visit!" she remarked.

WHAT'S ON

BARRY SURGERY

DAVID MELDING, Conservative Assembly Member for south Wales central region, will be holding an advice surgery tomorrow (Friday, December 11), at 29 High Street, Barry, between 10am-11.30am. No appointments are necessary and all are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

LLANTRISANT Parish Church will again hold its Christmas tree festival on the weekend of December 12-13.

This year proceeds will be shared by Macmillan Cancer Support and the church hall restoration fund.

Father Christmas will be in residence in his grotto and refreshments will be served in the church hall throughout the weekend.

The festival will begin with a concert on Friday evening, December 11, at Llantrisant Church by Cantorian Choir, Pontyclun.

The Salvation Army and local schoolchildren will provide entertainment in the church on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday afternoon, December 13.

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Out and About with The GEM

Bro Radio's new chief

BRO Radio has appointed a new managing director – 43-year-old Clive Silver, formerly from Cardiff, who runs a successful media company in London.

Mr Silver, who worked in television in Wales during the 1990s, said: "I am delighted to be able to lead a community radio station that's professional, forward thinking and committed to providing quality output.

"I am also pleased that the Vale of Glamorgan Council is supporting the community initiative.

"I am looking forward to working with a great team here at BRO who are dedicated to providing the very best in local radio."

Mr Silver joins present directors, Phil Kirkham, Jon Horne, Ray Murray and Anthea Clements.

The board expressed their thanks to outgoing managing director, Danny Chang and wished him all the best in his new venture.

ABOVE: The new managing director at BRO Radio, Clive Silver.

Jemma's long distance journey for her diploma!

BARRY College tourism lecturer and travel agent Jemma Allerton is off to Sri Lanka to bid for a prestigious travel consultant of the year prize.

Jemma, who tutors at the college when not working as a travel consultant in Cardiff, has won a place on the Kuoni Long-haul Travel Diploma.

The five-day trip consists of a series of exams and visits to Sri Lanka's top tourist attractions for the 50 travel agents who have won a place on the course.

"It will involve meeting a lot of people who work in the travel industry and visiting about 12 hotels – it's going to be very busy and quite hectic. Someone will also win the award for travel consultant of the year," Jemma added.

Jemma Allerton teaching at Barry College.

PRAISE FOR ART SHOW AT STATION

THE Vale Assembly Member Jane Hutt, joined local artists and visitors at the opening of the Vale of Glamorgan Artists (VOGA) and MIND open winter exhibition at Barry town station.

She reported: "This wonderful new display of paintings, drawings and prints by local artists runs until January 29, 2010. It was lovely to meet one of the artists, Steven Miller, who also runs classes at the Ty Newydd Centre, and to congratulate him on his work 'Winter's Day in Oils'.

Jane Hutt AM, local artist Steven Miller and Eileen Wareham – chair of MIND in the Vale.

Choral Society stages a Christmas celebration

BARRY Choral Society presents a celebration of Christmas at All Saints Church, Barry on Saturday December 12, at 7.30pm.

Under the baton of deputy conductor Ian Rhys Parker and accompanied by Emma Arscott, the choir will perform carols chosen by its members.

To celebrate Welsh composer Mervyn Burtch's 80th birthday, the choir will perform his delightful carol *The Shepherd and the King*.

The choir is also celebrating the birth of Osian Fôn Thomas, who will join his brother Jonathan Bryn as mascots of the choir and prospective tenors! Osian was born on November 6, to conductor Jo Herco Thomas and tenor Rick Thomas.

Despite having given birth to Osian, Jo will be conducting three items in the concert, as well as singing the solo part in *O Holy Night* and duets with Leda Filippopoulou.

Ian Rhys Parker will 'wear another hat' during the concert when he will perform Bach's *Toccata and Fugue* and J Alain's *Litanies* on All Saints' magnificent pipe organ.

He will accompany the choir on the organ for the *Hallelujah Chorus* and *For unto us a child is born* from Handel's *Messiah* are performed and conducted by Jo Herco Thomas.

The choir will be joined by Cardiff University Brass Band under the direction of Alice Jones.

Tickets available at Harmony Furnishings, High Street, Choir members and at the door.

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Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee

A Christmas Service

will be held at

Coychurch Crematorium

Thursday 17th December 2009 at 7.00pm

Led by

Revd. D. Euros Miles

Ruhamah, Bridgend & Noddfa, Porthcawl

Canon Val Hamer

Rector of Coychurch

Featuring the OGMORE VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR

Complimentary wine and mince pies will be served at the end of the service.

Cyd-bwllgor Amlosgfa Llangrallo

Gwasanaeth y Nadolig

yn cael ei gynnal yn

Amlosgfa Llangrallo

Nos lau 17eg o Ragfyr 2009 am 7.00pm

Dan Arweiniad

Y Parch. D. Euros Miles

Ruhamah, Pen-y-bont a Noddfa, Porthcawl

Y Canon Val Hamer

Rheithor Llangrallo

Yng nghwmni CÔR MEIBION CWM OGWR

Bydd gwin a mins peis yn cael eu gweini'n rhad ac am ddim ar ddiwedd y gwasanaeth hwn.

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WELSH MEDIUM PUPILS GO ON A JOURNEY INTO SPACE – AND ALSO FOSTER MUSICAL TALENT!

News from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg

Outer Space

YEAR-8 thoroughly enjoyed their thinking skills day on the theme of space recently. They worked together to take up the challenge of heading to Mars to set up a new colony.

High School Musical

A BRAND new production in Welsh of the hit musical will be staged for the first time ever in south Wales on December 14, 15, 16.

The cast are busy rehearsing for this exciting premier. Tickets are on sale from the school on 01446 450280.

Year-6 Transition Day

IT was *Guten Morge*n! *Bonjour*! and *Hola*! as year-6 pupils enjoyed a fun-filled day of activities, with Europe and language learning central to the first transition day of this academic year.

All pupils from our five feeder schools were presented with certificates at a highly successful day.

Music in the Vale

OUR tradition of fostering musical talent continues.

Congratulations to two year-8 pupils, Elen Wen Smith 8B (piano soloist) and Robin Tate 8R (piano ensemble) who both made the finals of their respective sections after a really tough day of auditioning on Sunday at Music in the Vale.

As finalists, they performed their programmes again in a formal evening concert held at the school, which was well attended by the public and local dignitaries from across the Vale.

The standard this year was incredibly high, with competitors from all over the UK, not just the Vale.

Both girls performed brilliantly and were presented on stage with cash prizes and certificates of achievement by AM Jane Hutt and will now have the opportunity to perform at the Wales Millennium Centre and other local venues.

Christmas Fair

AN extremely successful Christmas fair organised by the members of CRYF, our PTA, kick-started the school's Christmas celebrations this week.

A busy evening resulted in CRYF raising £600, which will be used towards buying technology resources for the school. Many thanks to all our volunteers.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2009 (DROS DRO) (FFORDD GYSWLLT DOCIAU'R BARRI (A4231),Y BARRI) (CYFYNGU CYFLYMDRA I 30 M.Y.A., GWAHARDD TROI I'R DDE A THRO PEDOL)

Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob p_er galluogi arall yn gwneud Gorchymyn cyn pen saith niwrnod ar ôl dyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn i'r dibenion cyffredinol a nodwyd yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd hawl i neb yrru na chaniatáu i neb arall yrru'n gyflymach na 30 milltir yr awr yn y mannau sydd wedi'u nodl yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Bydd y gorchymyn yn berthnasol i Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) rhwng y gyffordd â Cardiff Road (A4055) a'r gyffordd â Port Road y Barri (A4050).
Bydd Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2005 (Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri A4231) (Cyfyngu Cyflymdra i 50 m.y.a.) yn cael ei atal yn ystod y gwaith hwn.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol i wella'r ffordd a'r holl waith sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Cyfnod 18 mis ar y mwyaf o ddydd Llun 4 Ionawr 2010 (06.00) ymlaen, neu hyd nes y bydd yr arwyddion '30 m.y.a'. wedi'u tynnu.

ATODLEN 3

2. Ni fydd hawl i neb droi i'r dde na chaniatáu i neb arall droi i'r dde wrth yrru yn y mannau sydd wedi'u nodi yn Atodlen 4.

ATODLEN 4

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde o Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) i Coldbrook Road, y Barri.

Ffordd arall Gyrrwch i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain at gylchfan wrth ymyl y gyffordd â Cardiff Road (A4055). Gwnewch dro pedol wrth y gyffordd honno, gyrrwch yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) a throwch i'r chwith i Coldbrook Road.

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde o Argae Lane i Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231).

Ffordd arall Gyrrwch i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain at gylchfan wrth ymyl y gyffordd â Cardiff Road (A4055). Gwnewch dro pedol wrth y gyffordd honno a gyrrwch yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231).

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde o Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) i Argae Lane.

Ffordd arall Gyrrwch i gyfeiriad y gogledd-orllewin at gylchfan wrth ymyl y gyffordd â Gilbert Lane/Trem Y Coed. Gwnewch dro pedol wrth y gyffordd honno, gyrrwch yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) a throwch i'r chwith i Argae Lane.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol i wella'r ffordd a'r holl waith sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Cyfnod 18 mis ar y mwyaf o ddydd Llun 4 Ionawr 2010 (06:00) ymlaen, neu hyd nes y bydd yr arwyddion 'Dim Tro i'r Dde' wedi'u tynnu.

ATODLEN 5

3. Ni fydd hawl i neb newid cyfeiriad na chaniatáu i neb arall newid cyfeiriad drwy droi ei gerbyd yn y mannau sydd wedi'u nodi yn Atodlen 6.

ATODLEN 6

Lleoliad Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) o'r gylchfan wrth y gyffordd â Cardiff Road (A4055) i'r gyffordd â Coldbrook Road.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol i wella'r ffordd a'r holl waith sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Cyfnod 18 mis ar y mwyaf o ddydd Llun 4 Ionawr 2010 (06:00) ymlaen, neu hyd nes y daw'r gwaith i ben.

Dyddiedig 10 Rhagfyr 2009.

M. Punter,
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (A4231 BARRY DOCK LINK ROAD, BARRY) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION, PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURN AND PROHIBITION OF U TURN) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2009

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 30 mph in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The area of the A4231 Barry Dock Link Road to be affected is between its junction with the A4055 Cardiff Road and its junction with the A4050 Port Road Barry.
In addition, the Order known as The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Route A4231 Docks Link Road, Barry) (50mph Speed Restriction) Order 2005 will be suspended for the duration of the works.

Reason To allow essential road improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.

Duration From 06:00Hrs on Monday 4th January 2010, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the 30mph Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

SCHEDULE 3

2. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to turn right at the locations specified in Schedule 4.

SCHEDULE 4

Location The right turn from the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road into Coldbrook Road, Barry.

Alternative Route In a southeasterly direction to the roundabout at the junction of A4055 Cardiff Road, then "U" turning at this junction, back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road then turning left into Coldbrook Road.

Location The right turn from Argae Lane onto the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Alternative Route In a southeasterly direction to the roundabout at the junction of A4055 Cardiff Road, then "U" turning at this junction, back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Location The right turn from A4231 Barry Docks Link Road into Argae Lane

Alternative Route In a northwesterly direction to the roundabout at its junction with Gilbert Lane/Trem Y Coed, then "U" turning at this junction and travelling back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road and turning left into Argae Lane.

Reason To allow essential road improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.

Duration From 06:00Hrs on Monday 4th January 2010, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the No Right Turn Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

SCHEDULE 5

No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to change direction by means of a U Turn at the location specified in Schedule 6.

SCHEDULE 6

Location The A4231 Barry Dock Link Road from the roundabout at the junction with the A4055 Cardiff Road to the junction with Coldbrook Road.

Reason To allow essential road improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.

Duration From 06:00Hrs on Monday 4th January 2010, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the works are completed.

Dated this 10 day of December 2009.

M. Punter,
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

WELSH SCHOOLS' INDOOR COMBINED EVENTS HELD AT THE NATIONAL INDOOR ATHLETICS CENTRE, CARDIFF

Matthew's athletic performance lands him international selection for Wales

by PETE MORRIS

Pictures by IAN DIXON

THE rise of Vale pupils in combined events competitions this year continued at the recent Joint Welsh Athletics & Welsh Schools Indoor competitions, held at the National Indoor Athletics Centre at Cyncoed in Cardiff.

Last year, it was Curtis Mathews (Barry Comprehensive) who made a huge improvement to finish second in the under-18 competition (for pupils in years 11 and 12) to David Guest (Bryntirion).

More importantly, his indoor five-event total of 2712 earned him a first ever Welsh Schools' vest at the SIAB Indoor Combined Events international at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, last December.

All of the Vale pupils who were competing in their third pentathlon of 2009 – the Cardiff & Vale Schools championships in the rain at Leckwith in May, and the Welsh Schools championships at sunny Swansea in June were the other two – left the NAIC centre feeling pleased, having set a new personal best for the year.

Perhaps the pupil who left with the greatest mixture of pleasure and surprise was Matthew Roan (St Cyres).

In May, the then year-9 pupil finished seventh at Leckwith with a score of 1720.

At Swansea, his improvement was totally unexpected, claiming the Welsh Schools' under-15 silver medal with a points total of 2328, an improvement of 600 points.

On his indoor debut, the now year-10 pupil, who has all the physical attributes to make a top-class decathlete when he reaches the senior age group, produced another fighting display in a competition in which his top event, the high jump, was replaced by the 200 metres.

His five event total of 2480 points added another 150 points to his Swansea score. It was not quite enough for a top three placing – he lost out to old rival Tom Bevan (Cardiff High) for third place by just two points – but his fourth place meant that he was selected to represent Welsh Schools in the under-16 age group (year-9 and year-10) at the SIAB Indoor Combined Events international at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow on December 5.

Although Roan gained that international selection, his points total was bettered by three of the Vale year-12 boys in the under-18 section.

This year, the competition in that older age group was even higher than in 2008.

The top three – Paul Bennett (Dyfed), Jamaul Whyte (St Teilo's) and Rhys Williams (Glamorgan Valleys) – all bettered 3000 points, while the experienced Glen Elsdon (Dyfed) claimed fourth place with 2874.

Vale boys claimed the next three places. Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge, 2799) was fifth with Tom Phillips (Stanwell, 2699) sixth and Rhys Allin (Cowbridge, 2681) seventh, while another sixth former from Cowbridge, Sam Morgan, improved his May score by more than 350 points. That quartet were backed up by fifth formers Duke Durham (St Cyres) and James Glaves (Bro Morgannwg), who produced new points' bests and will still be eligible to compete next year.

LEFT: Barry & Vale Harrier Tom Williams claimed third place in the Welsh Athletics under-15 boys' competition.

The only Vale girl to compete – year-11 Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren) – had good reason to feel pleased as she improved from 2008 points at Swansea to 2101 at this competition.

Two Barry and the Vale athletes, year-9 pupils Tom Williams and Luke Bowles, entered the Welsh Athletics under-15 championships. Tom claimed the bronze medal with a new points best of 2042 with Luke finishing fifth on his event debut.

Both boys were also included in the Welsh Schools under-16 competition, where they finished 12th and 14th respectively but have another year to make their mark.

Although the Vale sixth form boys missed out on international vests, they are asked to mark Saturday, July 3 2010 on their calendars, which is the date for the Aviva Welsh Schools' National Track & field championship and it has just been decided that, for a second year, the event will be staged at the Cardiff International Sports Stadium at Leckwith. Cardiff & Vale Schools' district will be looking to field a large team at the event and, with a minimum of two places available in all senior age group events, hopefully Messrs Trotman, Phillips, Allin and Morgan will be included.

An encouraging improvement for Bonvilston resident James Glaves (Bro Morgannwg, year- 11).

Results of Vale pupils – Welsh Schools

U18 Boys – Years 11 & 12 - (60H, SP, 200, LJ, 800)
5 Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge) 2799 (9.57, 11.13, 24.56, 5.64, 2:18.94); 6 Tom Phillips (Stanwell) 2699 (9.46, 9.49, 24.67, 5.51, 2:18.08); 7 Rhys Allin (Cowbridge) 2681 (9.80, 8.33, 24.52, 5.49, 2:10.66); 12 Samuel Morgan (Cowbridge) 2238 (9.66, 7.56, 25.46, 4.67, 2:23.65); 13 Duke Durham (St Cyres) 2205 (10.38, 8.88, 25.35, 5.19, 2:30.27); 14 James Glaves (Bro Morgannwg) 2132 (9.89, 9.20, 25.87, 4.92, 2:38.32)

U16 Boys - Years 9 & 10 - (SP, 60H, LJ, 800)
4 Matthew Roan (St Cyres) 2480 (9.78, 5.42, 24.96, 9.46, 2:26.14); 12 Thomas Williams (Stanwell) 2042 (10.02, 5.07, 24.96, 6.98, 2:42.00); 14 Luke Bowles (Stanwell) 1367 (10.92, 4.10, 29.00, 5.55, 2:38.32)

U18 Girls- - Years 11 & 12 - (SP, 60H, LJ, HJ, 800)
7 Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren) 2101 (6.85, 10.55, 4.24, 1.36, 3:03.96)

Welsh Athletics Championships
U15 Boys – Years 9 & 10 – (60H, LJ, 200, SP, 800); 3 Thomas Williams (Barry & Vale Harriers) 2042; 5 Luke Bowles (Barry & Vale Harriers) 1367.

A new personal best for Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge) in the under-18 section, but he just missed out on international selection.

Local trainers in Welsh National bid

LOCAL trainers Evan Williams and Tim Vaughan between them have entered four horses for the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow Racecourse on Monday, December 28.

Williams will be relying on *Cappa Bleu*, while Vaughan at this stage has three horses – *Atouchbetweenacara*, *Flintoff* and *Ballyagran*.

The runners could even include this year's Aintree Grand National hero *Mon Mome*, who headed the entries for the £100,000 race when they were announced this week.

Among the 82 horses are previous victors *Silver Birch* (2004), *L'Aventure* (2005), *Halcon Genelardais* (2006) and *Miko de Beauchene* (2007).

The veteran *Silver Birch*, the oldest entry for Chepstow at the age of 12, has also tasted success at Aintree – winning the Grand National in 2007.

Even Manchester United's manager, Sir Alex Ferguson, could be represented. His horse, *What A Friend*, is from the stables of the champion jumps trainer Paul Nicholls.

Coral, which has sponsored the Welsh National since 1973, made the Irish-trained *Beroni* its early ante-post favourite at 7-1. Next best is Sir Alex's horse on 10-1.

Trainers decide just before Christmas which horses will take part in the race, which forms the centrepiece of an afternoon of high quality racing at Chepstow Racecourse on Monday, December 28.

With Boxing Day falling on a Saturday this year, Monday is a holiday and that will make a trip to Chepstow Racecourse a very popular day out.

Richard Holland, Chepstow Racecourse's general manager, said: "We're expecting a big crowd once again for Coral Welsh National day this year."

BRIAN LEE

Juniors excel in cricket event

VALE junior cricket teams excelled in the recent Memory Lane Cakes Junior Indoor League.

The competition, which was based at the SWALEC Stadium, involved 240 children and 84 matches and was sponsored by Cardiff based company Memory Lane Cakes and supported by Sportsmatch Cymru – a Welsh Assembly Government business incentive scheme for sport in Wales, managed by the Sports Council for Wales.

The competition split the junior clubs into three age groups; under-9s, under-11s and under-13s. The aim of the tournament was to enable children to continue playing cricket once the traditional cricket season had come to an end.

The winners of the under-9s was Cardiff B Cricket Club after a nail-biting final against the Cardiff As.

In the under-11s age group, there were two sides that were fairly new to competitive cricket; Barry Wanderers and Dinas Powys. However, their enthusiasm and commitment, regardless of results, shone through each week, and ended with a host of eager children keen to learn more about cricket.

The winners of the under-11s age group were the Vale Cricket Club.

In the under-13s age group, a host of talented cricketers took part and, for many of them, the tournament was their first taste of indoor cricket and it quickly became apparent that the children had to adapt from the outdoor to the indoor game.

In the first few weeks, run outs accounted for a vast majority of dismissals before clubs took stock, adapted and approached the game in a different way.

The key game took place in week two, and was decided off the last ball when Dinas Powys sprinted through to victory over a strong Newport side.

Dinas Powys Cricket Club later beat Pentyrch in the final match to win the tournament.

Trophy success for maiden winner Neil at Farmers' day

THE wettest November many can recall failed to deter members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society from holding their monthly meeting, which was held last Thursday on the Mackintosh course at Cottrell Park.

Rain forecast for most of the day brought about a few late withdrawals, resulting in only 35 competing for the quality prizes kindly supplied by sponsor Mr Andrew Thomas of Herbert R Thomas Ltd.

Slightly damp conditions welcomed the early starters and, despite the occasional heavy shower, everyone completed their round, with some a little more complimentary than others regarding the decision to proceed with the event.

Penllyne resident Neil McLean, who scored 34 stableford points to register his maiden win in the members' section, was, not surprisingly, generous with his praise for the green staff for making the course playable.

Runner-up with 32 points was secretary Tony McCarthy, while Keith Walker finished third with 30 points.

Captain Ray Howells, sponsor Andrew Thomas, winner Neil McLean and Barrie Melhuish with guest Bill Prichard.

Bryan Owen, following his well-publicised success at the Cowbridge Rugby Club golf day, once again gets a mention by finishing fourth with 29 points and also winning the 'Premier Turf' sponsored lost ball sweep by guessing 24 golf balls would fail to return home. This resulted in £60 being raised for Dr Barnardo's.

The guest section was won by eight handicapper Barrie Melhuish, whose birdie on the 575-yard par five opening hole set the scene for a near perfect round of golf. Runner-up with 31 points was Robert Calcaterra.

Llandough resident Reg Hibbert finished third with 30 points, and other guests who competed but failed to make an impression were John Morgan, Gavin Rees, James Mordecai and Gareth Perkins.

Gareth, however, had the satisfaction of returning home as winner of the 'James the Butcher' sponsored longest drive competition, while James Mordecai collected a prize for being nearest the pin on the par three holes together with Clive Edwards, Bryan Wadham and Tony McCarthy.

Society captain Ray Howells was particularly pleased to welcome to the evening's presentation ceremony local retired farmer Bill Prichard.

Bill was a former member of the society who abandoned his golf clubs many years ago to follow his still unfulfilled dream of owning a horse good enough to win the Hennessy Gold Cup or Welsh Grand National.

Finally, special thanks to Miss Esther Magee, sales co-ordinator at Cottrell Park, for arranging our visit there at short notice.

The society's next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 17 at RAF St Athan Golf Club.

TMcC

COMPETITION WINNERS GET THEIR JUST DESSERTS AT PRESENTATION DINNER

WENVOE Castle Golf Club recently held a presentation dinner to award prizes to the successful golfers in club competitions held throughout 2009.

Trophies were awarded for competitions in both the men's and ladies sections, together with awards for junior competitions and the ever popular mixed events.

Nick James won the Men's Club Championship for the fourth year in a row. He now has a very polished acceptance speech and this year paid compliments to the green staff for their excellent work in presenting the course, with its ever-improving greens.

He also paid tribute to finalist Keith Stimpson in a match of high quality and low scoring.

Lady captain Delyth Thomas presented Sue Macpherson with the trophy for the Ladies Championship. Sue produced a fine performance to take the title and thanked the defending champion, Lyn Williams, for the excellent spirit in which the final was played.

Club captain Brian Green presented the trophy for the Junior Championship to Jorden Ivory, who won a closely contested final over Rhys Collier on the last of 36 holes.

On presenting the trophy, Brian Green also paid tribute to Cyril Evans, the junior leader, who has worked tremendously hard with the junior players on a busy programme of team matches and competitions.

Club vice-president Colin Champ made light work of a busy schedule to ensure the presentation of trophies for almost 40 competitions went as smoothly as an 'Oscar' ceremony.

He made special mention of Heather and Charlie Kinsey, who were the proud winners of the Cupid Cup. Entry into the competition is restricted to married couples only – and it was strongly rumoured they married in August simply to enter and win this prestigious tournament!

The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by more than 100 members and guests, and special mention must be made of the excellent dinner provided and served by the club catering staff.

ABOVE: David Iles, winner Dragon Trophy.

ABOVE: Men's champion Nick James with club captain Brian Green.

ABOVE: Del Lewis (on left) winner of the Dai David Putter, with club professional Jason Harris.

ABOVE Heather Kinsey (left) and Charlie Kinsey (right) winners of the Cupid Cup, with club captain Brian Green.

ABOVE Debra Jones and Chris Jones (left and centre) the winners of the H Broadbent Trophy, with Wendy Motton.

ABOVE: Gareth Duddridge and Pat Jarvis, the winners of the Bowen Green Tankards.

RIGHT Lyn Williams (left) and Fran Grant (right) winners of the White Cup Foursomes with lady captain Delyth Thomas .

ABOVE: Sue Macpherson –Ladies Champion .

ABOVE: Matthew Gill took the Robert Rickards Cup.

ABOVE Sam Harris (on left) winner of the John Lewis Cup with junior leader Cyril Evans .

ABOVE Jorden Ivory – junior champion.

ABOVE: Carole Harris (left) and Rhian Hudd (right) winners of the Laurie Jones Shield with club president Brian Coffin.

ABOVE: Howard Hitchcock, winner of the LG Fellows Tankard .

ABOVE Brian Brooks (left) and Peter Hennessey (on right), winners of the H Regan Foursomes with Brian Green.

ABOVE Lynda Hudd (on left) the winner of the Thompson Salver, with lady vice-captain Wendy McConkey.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 16 December 2009

HOMES4U HOTLINE
01446 709840
01446 704316

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at **HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**, or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Legal, Public Protection and Housing Department
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

ARTHUR DAVIES COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1032980
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
- Studio apartment
- Ground floor
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Warden on-site
- Communal entrance
- Parking

Rent £84.53 per week including service charge

CERI AVENUE, RHOOSE

H4U Reference 247141
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55
- Studio bungalow
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Community alarm

Rent £81.08 per week including alarm and water charges

COLUMBUS CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 1036415
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Enclosed rear garden
- Parking

Rent £78.19 per week including service charge

CRAWSHAY CT, LLANTWIT MJR

H4U Reference 234170
Suit. for a single person or couple over 60 – no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (lift)
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Warden and alarm

Rent £94.96 per week including alarm, warden and service charges

CRAWSHAY DR, LLANTWIT MJR

H4U Reference 234352
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55
- One-bedroom bungalow
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Community alarm
- Gardens

Rent £82.33 pw including alarm and service charges

DOROTHY CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 521949
Suitable for a single parent or couple with one child
- Two-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £80.97 per week including water charges

GWENOG COURT, BARRY (2)

H4U Reference 210760
Suit. for a single person or couple over 60 - no pets
- One-bedroom flats (2)
- Lift in complex
- Ground and first floors
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Warden and alarm

Rent £98.31 per week including warden, alarm and service charges

GWYN JAMES COURT, PENARTH

H4U Reference 967973
Suitable for a single person over 55 - no pets
- Studio apartment
- First floor (no lift)
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Warden on-site
- Parking/shared entrance

Rent £96.91 per week including service charges, water rates and heating

LENNOX GREEN, BARRY

H4U Reference 214857
Suit. for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
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- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

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NORTH WALK, BARRY

H4U Reference 217873
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £71.09 per week including service charges

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 219869
Suitable for a single person or couple with one child – no pets
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

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SEVERN AVENUE, BARRY

H4U Reference 222610
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- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Community alarm

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- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

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ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U Reference 245583
Suitable for a single person or couple with one child – no pets
- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £73.04 per week including service charges

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H4U Reference
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- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £87.31 per week including water charges

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Address	Band	Bids	Reg	Address	Band	Bids	Reg
Aberaeron Close	Gold	121	02/12/08	Fairoaks	Gold	12	25/02/09
Butrillls Walk	Gold	17	12/0/09	Gwenog Court	Gold	10	02/10/09
Caernarvon Gdns	Silver	17	14/06/04	Harlech Gardens	Silver	21	25/10/07
Campbell Court	Gold	51	25/06/08	Liddicoat Court	Silver	36	10/09/09
Castle Avenue	Gold	110	18/08/08	Margaret Avenue	Gold	80	18/11/08
Churchill Terrace	Gold	89	25/02/09	Marquis Close	Gold	71	20/01/09
Crawshay Drive	Gold	19	15/04/08	Osprey Court	Gold	46	07/10/09
Culver Close	Gold	104	21/04/05	Pardoe Crescent	Gold	62	07/08/09
Dryden Terrace	Gold	71	03/11/08	Phyllis Street	Gold	14	25/03/08
Dunlin Court	Gold	48	14/08/09	Pontalun Close	Gold	15	06/10/09
Dylan Crescent	Gold	88	22/01/08	Severn Avenue	Gold	17	24/03/09
Edward Street	Gold	64	26/06/09	Thomas Court	Silver	20	23/05/07

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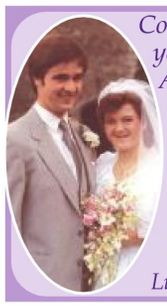

Congratulations on your Silver Wedding Anniversary 15.12.09
NIGEL & MARIANNE ENGLAND
Enjoy your special day Mum and Dad
Lots of love Louise, Luke and Mathew xxx

Family Notices

SAWYER
Barbara Mary
Peacefully at home on Wednesday 2nd December 2009
Loving sister of Frances Fisher, devoted mother to Julie-Anne and Christopher, mother-in-law to Joanne and Mark, much loved Nana of Matthew, Robert, Sophie and Adam.
Resting in the chapel of W A Brown & Son, Llantwit Major.
The funeral service will be held at St Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major at 10:15am on Monday 14th December 2009, followed by a cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 11:30am.
Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, may be sent to Macmillan Cancer Support c/o C. Sawyer, 27 Heol Ger-y-Felin, Llantwit Major CF61 2XA.

TRUDGIAN
Patricia Ann
Peacefully at home on December 2, after a tremendous fight. Pat of Boverton, beloved wife of John, dearly-loved mum of Jeremy & Denise, Jonathan & Gail, and Jenny & Mark. Treasured Nanny to all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
The family would like to thank doctors, nurses and receptionists at Eryl Surgery. The nurses from Marie Curie, all the staff at Y Bwythyn Newydd and Velindre Hospital who have helped us through this difficult time. We would also like to thank all our friends and neighbours for their kind messages and support through this difficult time. God bless you all.
Mum's love will live on forever.

JOHN MERVYN WILLIAMS
(1935 - 2009)
Hoffai Rhiannon a'r teulu ddiolch i bawb am bob mynegiant o gydymdeimlad a chefnogaeth yn ystod eu profedigaeth ddiweddar.
Rhiannon and family would like to thank everyone for the sympathy and support shown to them during their recent bereavement.

Terence Norman Arnold (Terry)
Marian and family would like to sincerely thank all their friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and donations in the sad loss of a much-loved husband and brother. Many thanks to Canon D. Belcher and everyone involved in what was a beautiful service. Special thanks to Cowbridge District Nurses, Llandough Haematology Clinic and Holme Towers for their extreme kindness to Terry. Finally, a big thank you to Thomas Brothers for the professional way in which they carried out their duties.

Eunice Grace JONES
Peacefully, after many serious illnesses courageously endured, at Bassetlaw Hospital, Nottinghamshire.
Eunice Grace Jones, formerly of Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan, aged 84 years of age.
Funeral to be held at Holy Trinity, Llandow, at 11.00am on Friday 11th December.
Flowers or donations welcome: Donations to Holy Trinity, Llandow. Flowers to Green Gate, St Brides Major. Enquiries to Thomas Bros, 01446 772669.
Reunited with her beloved husband, Raymond.

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High Street Traders prize draw winner

***RIGHT:** Lucky winner Mrs Babs Goldsby of Barry is seen receiving £100 of shopping vouchers from Anthony Hopkins (Chairman of High Street Traders) and Tony Gratton, who sold the winning ticket.*

HIGH STREET Traders have announced the fourth lucky winner in their monthly prize draw.

The High Street Traders Association holds a raffle every month. So if you want to be in with a chance to win, pop into any shop displaying the 'Raffle' sign, buy a ticket and who knows, you could be the next lucky winner. As it's December, there will be two winning tickets drawn, each with £100 shopping vouchers.

The winning ticket will be drawn live on Bro Radio on the 12th of every month, just after the midday news, when you can find out if you have won.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01239/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of first floor extension to rear elevation
Location:/Lleoliad: Hendre Cottage, Michaelston Le Pit
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Michaelston-le-Pit

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01196/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing single storey outbuilding to rear, construct new single storey extension to rear wing adjacent to western boundary
Location:/Lleoliad: The Three Tuns, St. Nicholas
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01202/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Astronomical observatory
Location:/Lleoliad: Dyffryn Gardens, Dyffryn
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Dyffryn House, Grade II*

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF
(TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way
Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01105/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of disused barn to bedroom and single storey extension to existing dwelling. Conversion of disused pen to farm office.
Location:/Lleoliad: The Coach House, Bolgoed Farm, Hensol Road, Hensol

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 10 December, 2009
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 10 Rhagfyr, 2009
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

LOCAL RUNNERS' HOPES DASHED IN INTER-SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Report by PETER MORRIS

THE Welsh Schools' Inter-Schools cross-country championships have been a happy hunting ground for the Vale schools in recent years, but the run of success came to an end at the 33rd staging, held at Penlan in Brecon.

In the week leading up to the event, the combination of wet weather and high winds made it touch and go whether the fixture would be staged. On the Thursday night before the event, meeting organiser Derek Osborne made the decision that the fixture would be held, but that did not prevent rain, rain and more rain falling on the day, making the course very heavy in places.

For the last nine years, Cowbridge School has won at least one of the six team titles at this fixture but this year, much to the disappointment of Miss Laura Hale and Mr Glan Williams, members of the school's hard-working PE department, that unique record came to an end.

At the South Wales Regional Schools championships, held before half term, Cowbridge pupils had claimed the individual and team titles in the under-14 girls race section while the Llantwit squad were winners at under-16 girls. Both schools had high hopes of further success at Brecon, but it was not to be.

In the opening race, Annabel Curle, the South Wales regional schools' champion, struggled to make an impact in the under-14 race for girls in years-7 and 8, and had to settle for 16th, well down on Stanwell's Kate Coker, who was top Vale performer in seventh. With Jordan Carpenter the normal Cowbridge second runner home not competing, the Vale school had to settle for fourth behind a super showing from Pembrokeshire's Sir Thomas Picton.

Dafydd George was the highest placed runner in the under-14 boys' race. The Bro Morgannwg year-8 finished sixth, while Tom Owen was the top placed Cowbridge athlete, taking 23rd place and leading the team home to sixth.

For the last two years, Llantwit have won the under-14 girls' team title at this event, and hopes were high for a win at under-16 this time, but to win you have to have four scoring runners. Megan Osborne (8th), Anthea Young (12th) and Lucy Tarrant (23rd) ran well. Had there been a fourth scorer, she could have finished last, and Llantwit would still have beaten the 106 point total of the winners, Caereinion High from Powys.

There were very encouraging individual performances from three year-10 Vale boys in the under-16 race. Last year, no-one would have dreamed that Matthew Edwards and Callam Barrie of Barry Comprehensive would make an impact at the front end of this field but it is a mark of their improvement that Matthew just missed an individual medal, finishing fourth, with Callam, as he had indicated before the race, taking 10th spot.

Rory Heslop (Bro Morgannwg), who was ill before half term, and missed the South Wales event, eased back into competition with a 13th placing.

Only one Vale athlete competed in the senior girls' race, an event dominated by Ffion Price of Llandrindod High. St Cyres year-11 Bethan Daw, so impressive in finishing third in the South Wales regional schools, found the conditions very tough and had to settle for 16th.

Llantwit's Darren Jones was the leading Vale boy in the final race of the day, the senior boys' event for pupils in years-11 and above. The year-12 can feel pleased with his ninth place.

Many of the top Vale athletes from this fixture have an opportunity to end the first half of the cross-country season on a less disappointing note when they compete for the South Wales regional teams at the twelfth Welsh Inter Regional championships, which will be held at Builth Wells next Sunday, December 13.

VALE RESULTS

Senior boys – Years 11 – 14 - 5300m
9 Darren Jones (Lwt) 19:33; 15 Elliott Mears (Cow) 20:05; 17 Daniel Lewis (St Cyres) 20:15; 20 Alex Simon (Lwt) 20:25; 21 Rhys George (Bro M) 20:50; 27 Joseff Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro M) 21:27; 36 Jonathon Esquirol (Cow) 22:52; 39 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 23:52.

Under-16 Boys - Years 9 & 10 - 4120m
4 Matthew Edwards (Barry) 14:05; 10 Callam Barrie (Barry) 14:44; 13 Rory Heslop (Bro M) 14:51; 25 Elliot Richards (Stan) 15:39; 58 Tom Kamal (Cow) 17:34; 62 Stuart Fleming (Cow) 17:40; 68 Dan Owen (Cow) 18:37; 73 Luke Aspinall (Cow) 20:05.
Teams: 9 Cowbridge 261

Under-14 Boys – Years 7 & 8 - 2800m
6 Dafydd George (Bro M) 10:32; 23 Tom Owen (Cow) 11:12; 28 Ellis Rosser (Cow) 11:19; 42 Tom Lucas (Cow) 11:44; 68 Huw Bennett (Cow) 12:12; 79 Hywel Williams (Cow) 12:22; 80 Scott Thomas (Cow) 12:23
Teams: 6 Cowbridge 161

Senior girls – Years 11 to 14 - 4120m
12 Bethan Daw (St Cyres) 17:01

Under-16 girls – Years 9 &10 - 3640m
6 Megan Osborne (Lwt) 14:26; 12 Anthea Young (Lwt) 14:53; 16 Fiona Bray (Cow) 15:18; 21 Miriam Bennett (Cow) 15:34; 23 Lucy Tarrant (Lwt) 15:51; 34 Rebecca John (Cow) 16:38; 41 Hannah Jones (Bryn H) 18:12; 43 Jodie Price (Bryn H) 18:45; 44 Katie Mellin (Bryn H) 18:56; 45 Ashleigh Kincaid Cwm Rhymni 19:15; 47 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 20:27; 48 Katie Mills (Bryn H) 20:28.
Teams: 4 Bryn Hafren 175

Under-14 girls – Years 7 & 8 - 2800m
7 Kate Coker (Stan) 11:39; 16 Annabel Curle (Cow) 12:01; 19 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 12:11; 29 Chloe Hughes (Lwt) 12:36; 30 Rachel Cosier (Bryn H) 12:38; 33 Elinor Bishop (Cow) 12:41; 34 Tillie Carter (Bryn H) 12:44; 36 Kayla Huggins (Bryn H) 12:51; 41 Chloe Lewis (Stan) 13:06; 43 Kierney O'Dare (Lwt) 13:08; 45 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 13:10; 48 Alice Tudor (Cow) 13:22; 49 Anna Mirza-Davies (Stan) 13:30; 55 Charlotte Webber (Bryn H) 13:52; 58 Maisie Squire (Stan) 14:03; 59 Lydia Parsons (Lwt) 14:04; 60 Elinor Morgan (Cow) 14:07; 62 Laurie Thomas (Cow) 14:13; 64 Elinor Hicks (Lwt) 14:15; 73 Alix Hopkins (Bryn H) 14:44; 74 Sophie Morse (Bryn H) 14:49; 75 Jess Cushen (Bryn H) 14:53; 77 Laura Young (Lwt) 15:04.
Teams: 4 Cowbridge 142; 5 Llantwit 150; 6 Bryn Hafren 155; 7 Stanwell 155

Photographs by IAN DIXON

Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive) just missed an individual medal in the under-16 race.

Year-8 Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg), sixth in the under-14 race.

Annabel Curle led the Cowbridge team to fourth place in the under-14 race.

Megan Osborne (194), Lucy Tarrant (195) and Anthea Young (196) pack well in the under-16 race, but with no fourth runner, they did not complete a scoring team.

Pencoed on top in under-12 derby game

PENCOED were hosts to Bryntirion this week in a very evenly matched contest.

Bryntirion started the better and had chances which were cleared by the Pencoed defence. Pencoed did not look on form, with some sloppy passes giving Bryntirion much of the possession.

Pencoed did manage to break away with a cross coming in for Connor Goldsworthy to slot in the back of the net, but they still looked slow off the mark and Bryntirion picked up on this with some lovely passing.

Pencoed started to settle down half-way into the first half and started to pass the ball about. Connor Goldsworthy picked up the ball in Bryntirion's half and took on two defenders to strike and made it Pencoed 2, Bryntirion 0, at half time.

The second half started well for Pencoed, but Bryntirion's 'keeper kept them in the game with a fantastic save. Pencoed kept battling but couldn't get that third goal,

Bryntirion kept working hard and never gave up. They came close on a few occasions and should be really proud of their performance. Pencoed did manage to score just five minutes before full time with a goal from Lewis Butler.

Final score: Pencoed 3, Bryntirion 0.

CG

Christingle service in Cowbridge

ADVENT continues to be a busy, rich and exciting time in all the Cowbridge churches.

This weekend starts with the Big Sing tomorrow (December 11) at Holy Cross church at 7.30pm.

The United Free Church has a Celtic worship advent service at 6pm this Sunday. Also this Sunday, at 4pm in Holy Cross church, the Christingle service will be held.

This year we have special visitors, including Mr C Tingle and the Watt family, whom many will remember from holiday clubs.

SUE FREELAND

TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!

● *WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email: ggem@internet-today.co.uk*

Why trust is taking dogs off Christmas gift list

THIRTY ONE years on from the birth of its famous slogan 'A dog is for life, not just for Christmas®' Dogs Trust, which has a rehoming centre in Bridgend, is bracing itself for another busy Christmas.

In 1978 20 per cent of dogs were given as gifts, whereas in 2008 this figure was just 1.8 per cent. However this still represents 131,400 dogs per year. Many pups are abandoned soon after being given as presents, while older dogs can be dumped to make way for new puppies.

Last year an unwanted puppy was abandoned on Christmas Day. "Theo the Labrador puppy had been bought as a gift for a young family who soon realised they hadn't the time to dedicate to him and he was abandoned at our West Calder Rehoming Centre'', a Trust spokesperson said.

To help prevent people thoughtlessly buying dogs as Christmas presents, Dogs Trust Bridgend will not rehome dogs from December 20 to January 2. People can visit and reserve a dog, but will not be able to take it home until the New Year.

Beverley Price, Dogs Trust Bridgend Manager stated: "As well as taking in abandoned dogs over the Christmas period, staff will continue their usual busy job of looking after the 70 dogs (approximately) in their care. While other people are preparing the turkey, staff at the centre will be cleaning kennels and walking dogs.

"At lunchtime they give dogs Santa sacks filled with toys and treats sent in from dog lovers all over the country. Some staff will also hand feed pups throughout the night over the holiday period.

"The A dog is for life, not just for Christmas® slogan is just as relevant today as it was when it was created 31 years ago. Some of the reasons we hear for dogs being abandoned are saddening.

Having a dog is a long-term commitment and the Christmas period gives us the opportunity to remind people that dogs are not fashion accessories or disposable items that can be upgraded or discarded after just a few months."

Dogs Trust Bridgend is based at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai CF31 4NG or contact: 01656 725219.

Ellie (aged 7) and family win VIP trip to police HQ

SEVEN-year-old Ellie Broad and her family had a day out with a difference when she won a competition at this summer's Sully fete.

Her prize was a trip to South Wales Police headquarters in Bridgend for a special VIP visit.

Ellie and her mother, Zara, and five-year-old sister Sophie were picked up from their home in Penarth by PC Andy Evans and driven by police car to headquarters.

At police headquarters, the girls were introduced to all the police horses and told about their different colouring, ages, sizes and were able to feed them carrots. They also watched while the horses were dressed into their police uniforms.

They then visited the dog section and were introduced to two of the force's 'sniffer' dogs and were given a description of what they do as part of their job.

A visit to the traffic department was next on the agenda for Ellie and her family, where the two girls received a bag of goodies, including a teddy bear, before seeing the motorbike and police car and how the lights and sirens worked and the video camera in the traffic car.

After lunch, there was a visit to the police helicopter where Inspector Gary Smart showed them videos of the helicopter helping to chase stolen cars in action.

Mum Zara said: "We are all so grateful to everyone involved in putting this day together. It was such a fantastic experience for all of us, nothing was too much trouble and we had an amazing time from start to finish. It really was a day to remember."

ABOVE:
Ellie tries out the helicopter.

WHO IS NEXT?

Penarth police are running a second competition for a youngster to win the prize.

For full details, contact the Penarth Sector of Ourbobby.com for further details.

POLICE APPEAL AFTER BARRY BURGLAR MAKES HIS ESCAPE

POLICE in Barry are investigating an attempted burglary at a house on Somerset Road in the Buttrills area.

The incident took place around midday on Monday, December 7.

A Vale Police spokesman said: "The burglar was disturbed by the householder while he was attempting to break in to the rear of the house, and made his escape across the garden, along Southey Street and out onto Gladstone Road."

The suspect is described as a white man in his 20s with short brown hair. He was wearing black track suit trousers and a navy blue top, with white chevrons running down the sleeves and with a short collar.

Detective Sergeant Julian Kerslake of Barry CID said: "We would like to hear from anyone who may have information with regard to this incident.

"If you saw anyone behaving suspiciously in the area or if you have information about this crime then please contact the police."

DS Julian Kerslake can be contacted at Barry CID, on 01446 731606, or free and anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Santa is star attraction at Dickensian evening

ON December 4, Dinas Powys Rotary Club held its annual village Dickensian fayre and, despite the inclement weather during the day, hundreds of villagers, of all ages, turned out to ensure another very successful and fun-filled event.

Spokesman Colin Ll Jones reported: "As always, Santa's grotto was one of the star attractions for the family.

"The coconut-shy stall was very busy all night and hundreds of burgers and hot dogs were sold.

"The market stall holders were very pleased with their sales and a fine festive spirit was generated during the evening.

"The president and members of Dinas Powys Rotary Club would like to thank everyone who turned out on the evening to assist, the Horseshoes Pub for their continued support and a special thank you to the people of Dinas Powys who turned out, even though the weather forecast was not favourable."

Poppy Appeal raised £4,223

A TOTAL of £4,223.74 has been banked from the sale of Poppies from 73 outlets in Cowbridge and district, together with the collections on the High Street.

Through The GEM, and on behalf of the Royal British Legion, I should like to thank all those who have contributed to this splendid result.

Unfortunately, we did not match last year's total of £4,748; therefore, should anyone wish to help to reduce the shortfall (perhaps by a collection at a Christmas party) the appeal fund 2009 is still open.

I would be pleased to receive donations, c/o The Town Clerk, Cowbridge Town Hall. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Poppy Appeal'.

Your readers will appreciate that calls on the Legion's fund have increased significantly as a consequence of the war in Afghanistan, and the Poppy Appeal provides a way in which we can demonstrate our support for our Servicemen and women.

Len Taylor,
Cowbridge

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165/70TR13 Bridgestone B250	£45.83	£87	£165	165/70TR13 Avon CR322	£36.61	£68	£130	165/70TR13 Hero	£26.30	£49	£95
175/70TR14 Bridgestone B250	£57.79	£110	£200	175/70TR14 Avon CR322	£45.27	£85	£160	175/70TR14 Hero	£29.05	£55	£105
175/65TR14 Bridgestone B250	£47.15	£89	£170	175/65TR14 Avon CR322	£40.10	£75	£140	175/65TR14 Federal	£30.59	£59	£115

PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £30.62

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
185/60HR14 Bridgestone ER300	£55.66	£105	£199	185/60HR14 Avon ZV3	£45.87	£87	£169	185/60HR14 Hero	£30.62	£59	£115
185/65HR14 Bridgestone B250	£63.83	£120	£225	185/65HR14 Avon ZV3	£50.51	£95	£185	185/65HR14 Hero	£31.38	£60	£115
185/65HR15 Bridgestone ER300	£73.84	£140	£265	185/65HR15 Avon ZV3	£54.89	£105	£199	185/65HR15 Federal	£35.88	£67	£130
195/65HR15 Bridgestone B250	£66.20	£125	£235	195/65HR15 Avon ZV3	£52.02	£99	£190	195/65HR15 Hero	£34.90	£65	£125

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £33.52

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
195/50VR15 Bridgestone ER300	£51.85	£99	£189	195/50VR15 Avon ZV3	£45.83	£85	£160	195/50VR15 Hero	£33.52	£65	£125
195/60VR15 Bridgestone ER300	£68.71	£130	£249	195/60VR15 Avon ZV5	£58.66	£112	£215	195/60VR15 Federal	£37.96	£72	£140
195/65VR15 Bridgestone ER300	£64.34	£120	£230	195/65VR15 Avon ZV5	£51.14	£97	£185	195/65VR15 Federal	£39.06	£75	£145
205/55VR16 Bridgestone ER300	£66.73	£125	£235	205/55VR16 Avon ZV5	£62.66	£120	£230	205/55VR16 Federal	£46.86	£90	£175

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205/55WR16 Bridgestone ER300	£72.40	£140	£265	205/55WR16 Avon ZV5	£66.20	£128	£249	205/55WR16 Hero	£47.62	£89	£170
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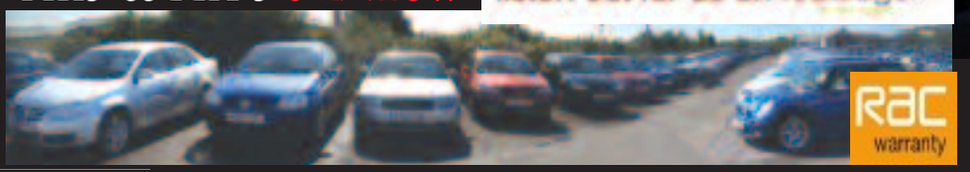

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05 **54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr Estate.** In Royal blue, Monaco ash half leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, multi-function steering wheel, only 32,320 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 AUDI TT Coupe 1.8 T Quattro (225).** In ebony black met, with full black leather, alicantara upholstery, heated seats, trip computer, climate, traction control, 6 cd autochanger, only 68,710 miles **£11,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£6,995**

02 **02 HONDA Accord 2.3i VTEC Type V (150)** in Atlantic blue with tan leather interior, electric drivers seat, sunroof, alloy wheels, climate control, rear parking sensors, only 48,000 miles **£4,495**

01 **Y AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225)** in met silver with full granite leather, 18" alloy wheels, heated seats, trip computer, cruise control + climate control, cd multi-changer with BOSE stereo upgrade, only 63,010 miles **£8,495**

00 **X TVR Tuscan 4.01 V8 360bhp.** In crystal topaz pearl blue with portland grey leather interior, cd, 18" spyder alloy wheels, e/windows, cat 1 alarm, e/mirrors, a/c, substantial workshop portfolio, supreme example, only 36,000 miles **£12,995**

00 **X BMW 325Ci 2.5i 2-Door Convertible.** In Brilliant silver with Montana grey leather interior, automatic air con, rear parking sensors, electric seats, alarm, alloy wheels, hard top in body coloured bumpers, only 87,720 miles **£8,995**

W **00 AUDI Cabriolet 1.8 Final Edition.** In silver with chilli red interior, alloy wheels, CD, iPod connection, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 62,510 miles **£4,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

FAMILY

07 **57 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Style 5-dr Hatchback.** In tonic blue with heated front screen, climate control, CD, cruise control, only 16,700 miles **£9,295**

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£8,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16V SE 5-dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

06 **06 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 2.0 Desire Automatic** in met silver with dark interior, cruise control, air con, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 24,645 miles **£6,995**

05 **55 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6i 16v 110hp Exclusive 5-dr MPV.** Oriental blue, blue interior, cruise, auto a/c, front fogs, steering wheel mounted audio controls, only 32,355 miles **£6,495**

05 **54 CITROEN Xsara Picasso Exclusive 1.6HDi.** In icelandic green metallic with doris blue interior, cruise control, climate control, alloy wheels, trip computer, cd, 1 owner, only 29,420 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 16v Authentique** in met grey with anthracite interior, a/c, auto wipers, auto lights, only 42,800 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 MAZDA 3 1.6TS 5-dr Hatchback** in titanium grey with blue sport cloth interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, steering wheel mounted audio controls, only 54,805 miles **£5,295**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£7,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr hatchback** in catalpa green met with tungsten cloth interior, climate control, cd, alloy wheels, sunroof, rear parking sensors, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

08 **08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Breeze** in black sapphire, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, multi-functional steering wheel, only 5,242 miles **£7,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

06 **56 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 106 Dynamique S 6 speed 3-dr Hatchback.** In eclipse black, dark interior, a/c, CD, alloys, colour coded bumpers, one owner, only 44,375 miles **£7,495**

06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with Kompass blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, only 39,475 miles **£6,495**

06 **56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback.** In raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,495**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

05 **05 RENAULT Megane 1.5 DCi 80 Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver with anthracite interior, CD, air con, front fogs, £35 a year road tax, only 60,945 miles **£5,495**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 COUPE CONVERTIBLE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v SXi 5-dr Hatchback** in Aruba blue with sensor cloth interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, cd, factory alarm, only 60,841 miles **£3,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,795**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

03 **53 VW Beetle 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum grey with Cavasta grey interior, heated seats, CD, electric windows, only 30,850 miles **£6,495**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles **£2,495**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Convertible SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46.010 miles **£4,995**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

06 **55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSi 5-dr Sport Back** in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior. BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate conrol, cd, only 39,280 miles **£11,995**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

04 **04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v SXi 5-dr Hatchback** in Aruba blue with sensor cloth interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, cd, factory alarm, only 60,841 miles **£3,995**

06 **56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback.** In raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,495**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 COUPE CONVERTIBLE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

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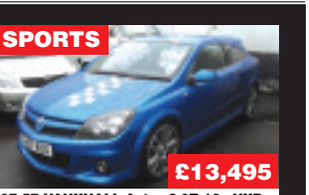
09 **09 NISSAN GT-R 3.8 Premium.** 2dr, **auto,** coupe, 4,000 miles, met black, full of spec **£51,995**
04 **04 PORSCHE 911 C4 Coupe.** 2 dr, manual 6 speed, 15k, met black, sat nav **£31,950**
09 **09 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sport.** 2 dr, manual, cabriolet, **diesel**, 1,900 miles, black, space saver wheel, abs, alloy wheels, immobiliser, passenger airbag **£19,995**
06 **06 HONDA Integra Type R DC5.** 2 dr, manual 6 speed, coupe, 15k, met blue, 1 owner **£13,995**
07 **57 VAUXHALL Astra 2.0T 16v VXR.** 3 dr, manual 6 speed, hatchback, petrol, 20,000 miles, met blue, 1 owner, fsh **£13,495**
03 **53 BMW Z4 3.0i.** 2 dr, auto, convertible, petrol, 25,000 miles, met black, reverse parking aid, colour coding interior, foglights, sat nav, xenons, fsh **£12,995**
04 **04 AUDI A4 2.5 TDi 163 Sport Cabriolet** 2-dr, manual, 6 speed, **diesel,** 48,000 miles, met black, 2 owners, long MoT, climate, upgrade alloys, full service history **£10,995**
03 **03 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 1.6 Cabriolet.** 2 dr, manual 5 speed, convertible, petrol, 54,000 miles, met black, 2 owners, heated seats, fsh **£7,995**
02 **52 MINI Cooper S 1.6.** 3 dr, manual 6 speed, hatchback, petrol, 65k, met blue, ABS, alloys, fsh **£7,495**
04 **54 MERCEDES-BENZ C180K Elegance SE.** 5 dr, manual, estate, petrol, 100k, green, 2 owners **£6,595**
07 **07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec.** 5 dr, manual 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 23k, met red, 1 owner, warranteed mileage, fsh **£6,195**
01 **Y MERCEDES-BENZ C220 CDi Avantgarde.** 5 dr, **auto,** estate, **diesel**, 97k, met blue, fsh **£5,995**
06 **56 MAZDA 6 2.0DS Diesel.** 5 dr, met blue, a/c, alloys, pas, rcl, full electrics, fsh, 60k **£5,895**
04 **04 HONDA Accord 2.2i CTDi Sport Diesel.** 5 dr, met grey, alloys, rcl, pas, leather trim, fsh, a/c, cd, full electrics, 90k **£5,795**
01 **X BMW 330d Sport Diesel.** 4 dr, 5 speed, saloon, 111k, met silver, e/w, leather heated seats **£5,795**
88 **E VOLKSWAGEN Caravelle Camper.** Manual, 4 speed, petrol, 95k, white, radio/cassette, towbar, fully restored camper, fitted with fridge, cooker & wash basin. **£5,495**
07 **57 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style.** 3 dr, manual, 5-speed hatchback, petrol, 23,000 miles, met blue 1 owner, warranteed mileage, full main dealer service history **£4,995**
06 **56 RENAULT Scenic 1.9 DCi Dynamique.** 5 dr, manual, estate, **diesel**, 62,000 miles, red 1 owner, full size spare wheel, abs, a/c, alloy wheels **£4,995**
03 **03 BMW 316ti SE** 3-dr manual hatchback, 58,000 miles, silver, space saver spare wheel, reverse parking air, abs, air con, fsh. **£4,995**
06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style.** 3 dr, manual, 5 speed hatchback, petrol, 24,000 miles, met green, 2 owners, met paint, long MoT, warranteed mileage, fsh **£4,695**
97 **R MERCEDES BENZ 230 SLK Convertible.** 3 dr, auto, met silver, a/c, alloys, cruise **£4,795**
04 **53 RENAULT Scenic 1.5 DCi Expression.** 5 dr, manual, estate, **diesel**, 44,000 miles, red, full size spare wheel, abs, a/c, front armrest, lumbar support **£4,295**
03 **53 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 SE FSi 86.** 5 dr, 5 speed, hatchback, 28k, met silver, ABS, a/c **£3,995**
02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 Coupe Cabriolet.** 80k, moonstone silver, red and black leather, superb **£3,995**
03 **03 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Ghia.** 5 dr, manual 5 speed, hatchback, diesel, 94,000 miles, met green, MOT 06/2010, space saver spare wheel, rear wiper ABS, a/c **£3,595**
03 **53 CITROEN C2 1.6i 16v VTR SensoDrive.** 3 dr, **auto,** 58k, silver, ABS, alloy wheels, cruise control, Immob, passenger airbag, warranteed, fsh **£3,295**
04 **54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression.** 3 dr, manual, 5-speed, hatchback, petrol, 36k, met silver, new MoT on purchase, sunroof, met paint, adjustable seats **£3,295**
02 **52 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.7 DTi 16v SXi.** 5 dr manual, hatchback, **diesel**, 46,000 miles, black, MoT, rear wiper, alloys, c/l, warranteed mileage, fsh **£3,295**
05 **05 VAUXHALL Vectra 2.0 DTi LS.** 5 dr, manual, hatchback, **diesel**, 120,000 miles, red, ABS, a/c, c/l **£2,995**
03 **53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design.** 5 dr, manual, hatchback, petrol, 27,000 miles, met silver, 2 owners, air con **£2,995**
03 **03 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec.** 5 dr, manual, hatchback, petrol, 53,000 miles, met blue, 2 owners, adjustable seats, a/c **£2,995**

SPORTS



£13,495

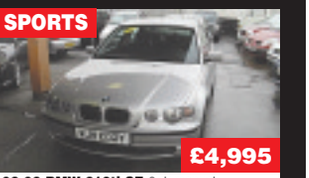
07 57 VAUXHALL Astra 2.0T 16v VXR. 3 dr, manual 6 speed, hatchback, petrol, 20,000 miles, met blue, 1 owner

CABRIOLET

£10,995

04 04 AUDI A4 2.5 TDi 163 Sport Cabriolet 2-dr, manual, 6 speed, **diesel,** 48,000 miles, met black, 2 owners, long MoT, full service history.

SPORTS



£4,995

03 03 BMW 316ti SE 3-dr manual hatchback, 58,000 miles, silver, space saver spare wheel, reverse parking air, abs, air con.

CONVERTIBLE

£7,995

03 03 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 1.6 Cabriolet 2 dr, convertible, 54,000 miles, met black, heated seats, 2 owners, full service history.

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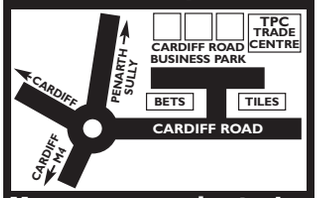

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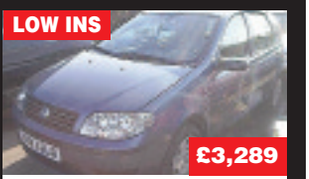
93 **K AUDI S2.** 3 dr, manual 6 speed, coupe, petrol, 80k, met green, multi airbags, ... **£3,995**
02 **02 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.8T GTi** 3-dr hatchback, 100,000 miles, black, full size spare wheel, rear wiper, abs, air con, taxed, alloy wheels, fsh **£3,595**
01 **Y VOLVO C70 2.0 T Convertible.** 2 dr, manual, petrol, met turquoise, 2 owners, ABS **£3,395**
00 **W VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.6 GTi.** 3 dr, manual 5 speed, 66k, met silver **£3,295**
01 **PP VAUXHALL Astra 2.2 16v Convertible.** 2 dr, 98k, met silver, ABS, a/c, alloy wheels **£3,295**
04 **54 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active.** 5 dr, 50k, blue, fsh **£3,295**
02 **51 BMW 318ti Compact.** 3 dr, hatchback, 68k miles, met black, heated screen, tinted glass, solid paint, climate control **£2,995**
02 **02 TOYOTA Corolla Verso 1.8 VVTi T Spirit.** 5 dr, manual 5 speed, estate, petrol, 120k, met silver, ABS, alloys **£2,795**
02 **52 SUZUKI Grand Vitara 1.6 16v SE.** 3 dr, manual, 5 speed, estate, petrol, 27,000 miles, met red, 2 owners, fsh **£2,795**
04 **54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 12v Life.** 3 dr, manual, 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 56,000 miles, met blue, ABS, c/l, fsh **£2,695**
03 **53 FORD Mondeo 1.8i Mistral.** 5 dr, manual, 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 87,000 miles, met blue, MOT 5/2010, 1 owner **£2,695**
03 **52 NISSAN Micra 1.2S.** 3 dr, 62k, blue, abs, immobiliser, warranted mileage **£2,695**
02 **51 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 65 Extreme.** 3 dr, manual, hatch, **diesel**, 78k, met blue 12 months Tax **£2,695**
01 **Y VOLVO V40 2.0 SE.** 5 dr, **auto estate,** 89k,blue, 2 owners, abs, alloy wheels, cruise control **£2,595**
03 **03 CITROEN Saxo 1.6i VTR** 3 dr, 74k, met black, full main dealer service history **£2,495**
02 **52 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6i Club.** 5 dr, manual 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 53,000 miles, met blue, 2 owners, long MOT, warranteed mileage, ABS, adjustable seats **£2,495**
03 **52 MG ZS 1.8 120+.** 55k, 2 owners, abs, alloys, **6 months tax,** air con, alarm **£1,895**
98 **FORD Puma 1.7i 16v.** 3 dr coupe, met blue, alloy wheels **£1,495**
01 **Y FORD Ka 1.3i.** 3 dr, manual 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 85k, met blue, adjustable seats, MoT and Taxed, low ins **£1,395**
95 **M VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GTi.** 3 dr, silver, taxed, mot'd, fsh, old MoT's, alarm **£1,195**
93 **L LEXUS GS 3.0.** 4 dr, **auto,** leather interior and heated seats, saloon, petrol, met silver, ABS, rear electric windows **£895**
97 **R FORD Fiesta 1.4 Ghia.** 5-dr, 5 speed hatchback, 83,000 miles, met red, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, air con. **£895**
99 **V FIESTA 1.25 Zetec.** 3 dr, met silver, fsh, alloy wheels, rcl and pas. **£795**
99 **T FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec.** 3 dr, manual, hatchback, petrol, blue, 2 owners, alloy wheels, cheap part ex to clear, MoT till September 2010 + **6 months tax** **£795**
96 **N VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.8GL.** 5 dr, blue, rcl, full service history, e/w, pas, sunroof **£795**

LOW INS



£3,289

04 54 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr, 5 speed hatchback, 50,000 miles, met blue, MoT, 2 owners, full service history, computer.

FAMILY

£2,495

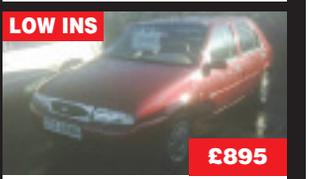
02 52 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6i Club 5-dr, 5 speed hatchback, 53,000 miles, met blue, 2 owners, long MoT, abs, adjustable seats

SPORTS

£1,195

95 M VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GTi 16v 3-dr hatchback, 120,000 miles, silver, MoT June 2010, colour coding interior, fsh, folding rear seats

LOW INS



£895

97 R FORD Fiesta 1.4 Ghia. 5-dr, 5 speed hatchback, 83,000 miles, met red, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, air con.

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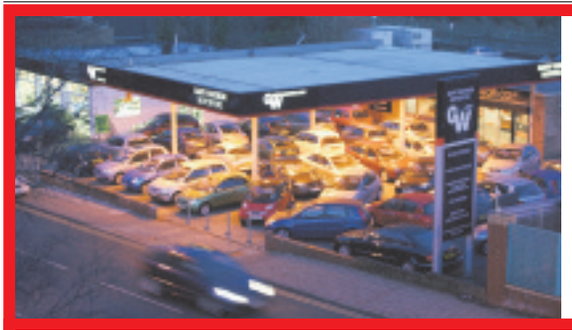

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05 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Twin Port SXi. In met silver, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner. . . . . .**REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,695**

55 MAZDA RX8 192bhp. In black, full leather trim, 47,000 miles with Bose sound system **£8,995**

04 JAGUAR S-Type 4.2 V8 Auto. In met-blue with grey leather trim, 42,000 miles, luxury motoring at **£8,995**

Y PEUGEOT 206CC 2.0. In silver, with black leather trim, low mileage local convertible . . .**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495**

06 MINI Cooper. In met blue + white, 37,000 miles, 1 owner with chilli pack and climate . .**REDUCED BY £300 TO £8,995**

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56	**BMW 335 Diesel SE Coupe Auto.** In dolphin grey with black leather trim, 26,000 miles	£19,995
54	**RANGE ROVER Vogue 4.4 V8.** In oslo blue, cream leather trim, 55,000 miles, sat nav, tv, zenons etc	£18,995
56	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique Convertible.** In met satin gold, low mileage example at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £9,495
06	**MINI Cooper.** In met blue + white, 37,000 miles, 1 owner with chilli packand climate	REDUCED BY £300 TO £8,995
55	**MAZDA RX8 192bhp.** In black, full leather trim, 47,000 miles with Bose sound system	£8,995
55	**PEUGEOT 307 2.0 CC.** In black, 19,000 miles, 4 seater, steel roof convertible at	£8,995
04	**JAGUAR S-Type 4.2 V8 Auto.** In met-blue with grey leather trim, 42,000 miles, luxury motoring at	£8,995
52	**LAND ROVER Discovery 2.5 TD5 5-dr.** In silver, low mileage example in superb condition	£8,995
52	**BMW 325 Ci Sport Automatic.** Met blue with beige leather, 75,000 miles, 18" alloys	REDUCED BY £500 TO £7,995
54	**JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel Sport.** In met steel blue with charcoal half leather trim, 74,000 miles	£6,995
04	**LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8S 3-dr hardback.** In light met blue, only 18,000 miles, superb throughout	£6,995
03	**TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi T Sport.** In smoke silver, 74,000 miles, 1 owner, upgraded alloys, fsh	£6,995
Y	**MERCEDES SLK 230** in silver with black leather trim, 79,000 miles, quality convertible at	£6,995
03	**MINI 1.6 Auto.** In black with full red leather trim, fantastic looking example	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
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55	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi 3-dr.** In met black, 25,000 miles, very desirable	£4,995
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05	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4S 5-dr.** Black, 50,000 miles, a/c, cd, etc	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495
03	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression Auto** in black, 1 owner, 31,000 miles	REDUCED BY £200 TO £4,295
54	**CITROEN C2 1.1LX 3-dr.** In met red with cd etc, local car on offer at	£3,995
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N	**SAAB 93 S Convertible Auto.** leather, alloys, a/c, lady owner, nice example	£2495
N	**BMW 325 TDS Saloon.** Sensible miles, alloys, rear spoiler, air con, plush interior, performance and economy	£1995

02 BMW 325 ti Sport Compact Auto 60k, fsh, heated leather, 18" MV alloys, climate, cruise, park distance control

51 MERCEDES ML55 AMG Auto. 80k, s/history, full leather, sat nav, cruise, xenons, chrome steps + bar.

02 HONDA Civic 2.0 Type 'R' 70k, fsh, alloys, cd system, alcantara trim, 6 speed box, awesome!

03 CITROEN Saxo VTR 1.6. 74k, superb example, low ins group.

51 BMW 316 Ti Compact SE. Lady owner, service history, alloys, air con, multi-disc, cruise, reverse sensors, superb at...

03 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 SE V6 80k, fsh, alloys, cd system, full leather, chrome pack,

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Cowbridge squash teams land the runner-up spots

BOTH the A and B teams from Cowbridge Bar 44 managed to secure the second places in their respective regional and county leagues, despite both narrowly losing their week 10 fixtures.

The C team, however, took a big 18 points from their final fixture of the half-season and find themselves looking at other results to come in to see if enough has been done to retain their South Glamorgan Division 2 status.

Nick Guard's A team travelled to Caldicot B knowing that a team win would take the South Wales Division 2 East C title. While Nick (at No 1) and team-mate Jon Bisson (No 2) posted strong 3-0 wins, their results could not be matched by players 3, 4 and 5.

Simon Payne (No 4) went down 2-3 (10-8, 9-2, 1-9, 7-9, 7-9) but yet so close to that vital victory (match score 8-13).

Cowbridge A Bar 44 gain promotion however as runners-up - losing out by just 8 points.

In the second half of the season, the As take on Risca A, Abercynon A, Llanishen A, Newport F and again Caldicot B.

Cowbridge B Bar 44 hosted a strong Old Penarthians B and also found themselves on the end of a 2-3 reverse, but good team points (match score 10-15) secures the runners-up spot in South Glamorgan Division One.

The Bs will line-up against Old Penarthians, Barry Leisure A, Rhiwbina D, David Lloyds B, plus whoever drops down from the South Wales section.

A good result was needed by the Cs to give them any chance of retaining their Division Two status – albeit they were home to bottom of the table Llanishen C.

The battle was taken up by Phil Matthews and Nick Groves at Nos 5 and 4 respectively, and both set up a strong platform for success with 3-1 results.

Dave Matthews managed to take the No 3 string by 3-2 (9-7 in the 5th) to make sure of the team win.

The vintage racket style of Hugh Wallace at No 2 saw him through to a 3-0 result, while Andy Littlejohn just failed 2-3 at No 1 to just fall short of a team maximum – match result 18-7.

Today (December 10) the Cowbridge lads will get a taste of the higher levels of South Wales squash when they entertain Risca in the South Wales Cup.

RUSS WATTS

Welsh National is the challenge for Aberthin trainer Tim

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

ABERTHIN'S Tim Vaughan has entered three horses for the £100,000 Coral Welsh National to be held at Chepstow Racecourse on December 28.

They are *Flintoff*, part-owned by England cricketer Andrew Flintoff, *Atouchbetweenacara* and *Ballyagran*.

Flintoff, an eight-year-old chestnut gelding, was formerly trained by Hereford's Venetia Williams and was runner-up to *Russian Trigger* in last year's Midland's Grand National at Uttoxeter.

The highly rated *Atouchbetweenacara*, who was also trained by Venetia Williams, reportedly suffered a damaged hoof when winning at Cheltenham last year and this headstrong eight-year-old bay gelding looks to have a promising career ahead of him.

Ballyagran, a nine-year-old bay gelding, used to be trained in Ireland by Noel Meade, and if Tim can improve on the horse's jumping, which sometimes lets him down, he could be a force to be reckoned with.

A winner of a bumper (National Hunt flat race) two hurdle races and two novice chases, *Ballyagran* will be at his best with plenty of give in the ground.

The last time a horse trained in the Vale was successful in Wales's most famous horse race was in 1965 when Denzil Jenkins, of Wilton Farm, Cowbridge, saddled *Norther*, a former Welsh point-to-pointer, who beat the Fred Winter-trained *Quintina*.

Norther was successfully ridden in point-to-points by Llancarfan farmer Rhys Williams, father of local trainer Evan Williams, but in the Welsh National Terry Biddlecombe was in the saddle.

During the Second World War, Sqdn Leader Denzil Jenkins DFC, had commanded a squadron of fighter pilots and he had 192 flying operations to his credit.

If you have any information on Denzil Jenkins or John Thomas, another Cowbridge trainer of yesteryear, I would be pleased to hear from you. Please email me at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone 02920736438.

Tudor's winner

JAMES TUDOR, assistant trainer to Llancarfan's Evan Williams, chalked up his first point to point winner of the season when landing a division of the maiden race at the Cambridge University United Hunts Club meeting at Cottenham on ex-hurdler *Leader Blue* on Sunday.

Tudor, a former national champion rider who has ridden more than 150 winners between-the-flags, also had a couple of seconds.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

Running rugby pays dividends for Year-7...Victory for girls' hockey

Continued from page 8

RUGBY

YEAR-7 played away to Llantwit on a cold evening with strong winds, but still kept faith in their handling skills to outscore their opponents by eight tries to nil.

The score does not reflect the amount of work the Cowbridge pack, led by Joe Davies, did in providing quality and quick ball for the backs to use wide out.

The Llantwit boys tackled all the way through the game and were unlucky not to score at the end.

Try scorers: Hywel Williams, Daniel Oddy (two), Jonathan Harvey (one plus four conversions), Kristian Jones, Tom Lucas (two), Joe Davies and Tom Evans.

HOCKEY

COWBRIDGE year-10 hockey team played Llantwit Major year 10 and 11 team.

It was the first match Llantwit have played in nearly two years and it was evident they had been training hard this season and made an impact with some great defensive work; in particular by their goalkeeper.

Rachel Bradshaw once again proved to be the most skilful player on the pitch, scoring Cowbridge's two goals and being named player of the match.

Beatrice Hawker and Lucie Johnson played their first hockey matches for Cowbridge and performed well. The final score was 2-1 to Cowbridge.

NETBALL

THE year-7 A and B teams played St Richard Gwyn on Monday, November 30.

The As began strongly, with Emily Davies scoring the first goal for Cowbridge. This was quickly followed by a goal from St Richard Gwyn.

Realising the competition, the Cowbridge girls lifted the tempo of their game and began to pull away with a 5-2 lead at half time.

In the second half, Ellie Eddie-Williams came on as wing defence for her first school netball match and made some excellent interceptions to support Caitlin Jones at wing defence and Rebecca Thomas at goal keeper. They prevented St Richard Gwyn from scoring in the second half.

Excellent attacking play between Hannah Lister-Sims and Ellie Davies ensured the ball was freed accurately into the shooters' zone and the game ended 8-2 with a win for Cowbridge.

Player of the match: Kim Jerwood (Goal Attack).

The B team got off to another flying start. Great linking play between Laurie Thomas at goal shooter and Jo Hannaby at goal attack gave the girls a solid 5-1 lead by half time.

Tilly Hall, Madeleine Reed, Nia Wornham-Price, Lilli Morris and Jasmine Evans all played their first school netball match and contributed towards a fantastic team performance which saw the final score finish 10-2 to Cowbridge.

Player of the match: Jo Hannaby (Goal Attack).

Well done to all the girls.

Vale Schools' defence proves to be rock solid

ON a blustery Saturday morning, the Vale of Glamorgan Schools under-11s entertained Rhymney Valley in their first game for three weeks.

From the kick-off, the Vale forwards forced an error from Rhymney and from the resulting scrum, the ball was passed along to Cai Evans, who broke through to score. The try was unconverted (5-0 Vale).

Rhymney tried hard to get back on level terms but every time they tried there was a Vale tackler, and it was not long before Will Gale seized on a loose ball in his own 22 and ran the length of the pitch to score under the posts. The try was converted by Cai Evans (12-0 Vale). The Vale backs continued tackling and the first period finished with the Vale leading 12-0 .

For the start of the next period, the Vale made a host of changes to make sure everybody had game time. Rhymney started to put some good moves together with backs and forwards combining well, but they knocked on in the Vale 22.

From the scrum, the ball was passed to James Holder, who went on a snaking run but was tackled on the Rhymney 22. The Vale forwards secured the ball and passed along the line to Charlie Pegrum on the wing, who raced in to score under the posts. The try was converted by Cai Evans (19-0 Vale).

The Vale forwards won the ball at the restart and set up a ruck. Spencer Robinson at scrum-half picked up, gave a dummy and raced half the pitch to score. The try was unconverted, and the last minutes of the period belonged to defence, with both sides tackling well.

The third period started well for Rhymney as they attacked time and time again, only to be stopped by some great defensive play by the Vale. As the period progressed, the Vale forwards again started to win good ball and from a ruck on the Rhymney 22, Nathan Lewis picked up and sprinted in to score.

Rhymney pushed hard in the last 10 minutes to try and get the score they deserved, but the Vale held out for a great win.

SJ.

United on White Ribbon Day

BARRY Rugby Club and Barry and District Soroptimists got together recently to mark International Day to Eradicate Violence Against Women, otherwise known as White Ribbon Day.

In 1999, the UN officially recognised November 25 as White Ribbon Day, and events are now held each year, in countries all over the world.

Wearing a white ribbon is a way of men showing their commitment to challenging all forms of violence against women and girls.

Local Soroptimists approached Barry Rugby Club to ask for their support, and a spokeswoman said they were "very pleased that players agreed to wear a white ribbon at their home match on December 5, to show their commitment to the worldwide campaign".

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